

STANLEY SCHOOL PTO Minutes
September 13, 2006

Meeting was called to order by Reid Lyons at 7:10pm.

Secretary's report was read and accepted. Motion by Collette. Seconded by Rhonda D. Treasurer's report was read and accepted. Motion by Sandy K. seconded by Orit B.

Update:

Playground Committee: Susan McKinney and Lisa Wise introduce themselves as new co-chairs for the committee as Reggie and family has moved out of state.

Reviewed goals of \$75,000 and results of various fundraisers over past 5 months. So far they are at just over \$50,000 with more to come in the next few months.

Showed a computer image of what they are hoping to build. The structure can hold 60-70 children with handicap accessibility.

They are continuing with Pennies for Funway collection which has already brought in just over \$1000. T-shirts with Funway logo are available for \$10 during Waltham Day and more Uno's nights as well as a Construction Site day (Sept.26th) have been scheduled. Entertainment Books will go home to all families in October and if purchased 55% will go to the committee. A Movie Night has been scheduled for November 17th. And Bubble Mania will be performing January 13th in the school gym. Admission fee will be announced.

Waltham Day: Will be held on the Commons on Saturday, Sept. 16th. I will be selling raffle tickets for a Sponge Bob basket and a Beta fish basket. Everything set and ready to go.

Fall PTO Fundraiser: Jackie Herrera is ready to go with the new Limited Edition fundraiser. Catalogs will be going home to families on September 18th. Volunteers will be needed to check class orders for accuracy and to check funds collected. Volunteers will also be needed to help sort and distribute products when they arrive.

Citywide Fundraiser: Reid announced that the 2nd annual event will be held at Brandeis University on October 30th. There will be a live band, cocktails and a silent auction with great prizes. The cost is \$50 per person and all funds are divided between all the city elementary schools. Last year we made \$3000.

Diversity Committee: Maria Lara-Jiminez gave a brief history of the committee's formation and history. This committee was key in the successful International Night and they need help in coming up with fundraising ideas and ways to bring more culture to the school. Maria will also be following up on her idea of an after school program to introduce children to a variety of languages. More information to follow.

New Business

Membership Drive: Please join the PTO. The cost is only \$10 which goes directly back to the children in various ways. Joining the PTO does not mean you have to attend meetings but it ensures that you can always have an active vote in what happens in our

school. Please participate in activities and join committees it is a great way to meet people and learn all that goes on in the school.

School Directory: Collette B. explained the purpose of the directory and has sent out the permission slips so your child's phone number can be published. The sooner the forms are in the sooner the directory can be available.

School Website: Jen Murphy School's Instructional Tech, Specialist introduced herself and announced that the PTO has provided funds to renew the website's domain. She requested that the dates or months for all PTO activities be given in advance so they can be posted on the school's calendar ahead of time. Reid promises to do so within the week. Collette asked if the directory could be posted. Yes.

Discussion was had on the possibility of teacher's posting daily homework

Nominating Committee: Reid needs 3 volunteers to find applicants for the Treasurer's position. Eileen Stanowitz and Collette Brenner volunteer.

Principal's Report

Marcia Pertuz introduces herself as the new principal at Stanley. She is really glad to be here and appreciates the warm welcome from all. She is amazed at the dedication of the staff and has meant all our gorgeous kids. A special thank you to Tom LeFort for all his help and there is no better person to work with. The first day of school went very well and Marcia gave a special thank you to those who helped out with the welcoming coffee and talked to new parents.

Tom and the staff do an incredible job with the arrival and departure system which is getting better every day. It will probably take 3-4 weeks to perfect. Marcia loved how teachers actually got on the bus to check on children. New parents are having a harder time figuring the system out but they will adjust.

A discussion was had on helping the younger walkers 5th grade volunteers will be used to help and Tom is awaiting parental permission for the 5th grade patrols.

Mrs. Pertuz has gone to all classrooms and greeted each child with a handshake. She will be sending home an Entry Plan to all parents to fill out so she can get a feel for what all are thinking and want her to know. Marcia loves the Tidbits as an informal means of communication and the first one will go home on Sept. 14th. Sept. 28th will be the first early release day. Marcia will be sending home a Principal's report the 1st week of the month and it will include articles in both languages. Tuesday, Sept. 26th is Back to School night for parents only. Marcia let all know that she has an open door policy and would love to meet with parents.

Open Discussion

A discussion was had on how to improve and speed up the dismissal of walkers because parking for parents on Wheelock Rd is a nightmare. Options and suggestions were discussed but because of the lack of parking available it may always be an issue.

Collette B. suggested that we may want to sign up for Hannaford's fundraising collection. Reid will investigate.

Jen Murphy will be sending home a permission form for children to appear on the school's website.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30. Motion by Eileen seconded by Sandra K.

