

**Carlisle School Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
November 1, 2012**

**Attendees:**

Liza Snell, Gobby Clough, Rebecca Besthoff, Christine Lear, Jennifer Sagalyn, Amy Coloian, Lisa Chaffin, Jean Barry, Amy Versaggi, Emily DiRocco, Jane Hamilton, Dennet Sidell

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Amy Coloian to approve October 4, 2012 minutes. Second Emily DiRocco. Unanimous approval.

**Dr. Sidell reported, Elementary Principal Update:**

- Halloween Parade went well yesterday.
- Teachers and Admin went to writing workshop. MA and nationally, moving to a tiered model system.
- New reading benchmark assessment. Will meet as grade levels and will discuss how will impact teaching.
- Dr. Sidell accompanied 5<sup>th</sup> grade Field Trip to see where will release turtles. Very hands-on experience in Concord in Great Meadow. Will return in the spring. Great teaching points.
- STEM up and running. New Class Math Olympiad. Parent and teacher are co-running it with 22 kids. Will have 2 competitive teams.
- Class Buddies: 5<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and will also try to match with 8<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Dr. Sidell will start a principal BLOG – Start Feb. and also include teacher involvement. Blog content will be around student activities to show parents what teachers are doing. Hopes parents will see value in allowing photos of children at school to be included.
- Talking with teachers and staff: Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade is the elementary school. Took an Elementary School Faculty Photograph. Working to give children opportunities to have a sense they are part of the Elementary School. Brainstorming ideas and open to suggestions. Will replace “leadership assemblies” and will reorient toward Elementary assemblies.
- As a group, we discussed possible ideas: talent show, bingo night, elementary math games night. Suggestion to build on existing activities instead of creating a new activity. Identified that there are not as many arts/theater opportunities for children in lower grades. Suggestion to talk to elementary music teacher. Rebecca Besthoff will take the ideas to Dr. Sidell.

**CSA Thank You's!**

Rebecca Besthoff read the following thanks:

- Christine Lear for running smooth grants process and election of parent reps on School Advisory Council.
- Gobby Clough for coordinating Gift Wrap Sale.

- Dennis McCollum for presenting a budget that the CSA Board approved.
- Leigh Tappen for serving so many years on the CSA Board – Best wishes in your new position in the pre-K room!
- Amy Versaggi for taking on the VP of 6-8 role in the middle of the year – A warm welcome to you!
- Mary-Lynne Bohn for doing the design work that went into the joint brochure put out by the CSA and CEF.
- Sara Clark for sending out the lists of volunteers to committee chairs.

#### **Treasurer (Dennis McCollum)**

- Liza Snell presented 2012-13 budget vs. actual for Treasurer.

#### **EVP (Christine Lear)**

- Christine Lear reported that the Grant Review Meeting went well.
- Slate of proposals and approvals presented by Christine Lear. This year, great representation of all areas of school.
- [Motion by Rebecca Besthoff, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lisa Chaffin to approve CSA teacher grants slate. Unanimously Approved.](#)
- There was discussion about the possibility of having a second funding cycle in the spring. Discussion tabled for now and will discuss in coming months.
- There was clarification of the process to approve current teacher grants by School Committee and then announcement to teachers.
- Christine Lear asked people to focus on the documentation of their CSA roles. She asked for people to work on it throughout the year and document in an ongoing fashion.

#### **Secretary (Liza Snell)**

- No report.

#### **Fundraising (Gobby Clough)**

- Delivery of gift wrap will happen late next week. Have a team of volunteers to deliver.
- Achieved more sales online and off line sales than last year, approximately \$3,650 net.

#### **Services Coordinator (Margot Parent)**

- Rebecca Besthoff reported for Margot Parent and asked how soon to publicize skating party? Amy Coloian requested 3 weeks beforehand.

#### **Curriculum Enrichment (Lisa Chaffin)**

- Working with teachers to confirm they want to have same programs as last year.

#### **Publicity (Amy Coloian)**

- Amy Coloian will send CSA Newsflash today, delayed due to the storm.
- Will focus on advertising for the Buzz announcement.

**Room Parent Coordinator (Emily Di Rocco)**

- No report.

**VPs of Elementary and Middle School (Jean Barry)**

- Looking for older students to help with CSA skating party. Amy Coloian suggested talking with Mrs. Heigel who runs the community service for kids at the school.
- January a speaker will be coming to the area about the topic of movement, motion associated with learning. Rebecca Besthoff suggested that Jean speak with Deb Bolanger, a community parent who has been a part of traffic safety board and who has information on this topic. The topic may relate to the 'walk to school program' that has been tabled for the time being.
- There was general discussion about a bike safety program at the school, starting the day with recess, and several other ideas for parent volunteer experiences. Rebecca Besthoff suggested that VPs of Education K-5 and 6-8 talk with Dr. Sidell and Dr. Mehaffey for their thoughts on these topics.
- Amy Versaggi announced: Dr. Gray is speaking at Temple Karem Shalom in Concord, on topic of how to keep our kids happy on Thursday, November 8, 2012. Jean will provide info to Amy Colonia to insert in CSA Newsflash as community news.

**New Business:**

- No new business

**Adjourn:**

Motion by Rebecca Besthoff, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Christine Lear to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous approval.

**Next meeting: Thursday December 6, 2012 at 9:00am**