

Site Council Minutes 4-12-10

Members Present: K. Nikas, B. Boulay, A. Barton, T. Marcille, M. Blaeser, J. Kennedy, L. Simmons, A. Caron. (Member S. Karcher attending Site Council at Spofford Pond School this month)

Community Outreach Sub – Committee -

- Kathryn Nikas reported out that Earth Day at Cole will be celebrated on April 16 @ 2:00 pm in the café. This school wide celebration will be lead by the Multi-age classes and all classes have also been invited to participate.
- The Council on Aging will not be attending this year's Grade 1 Expo this year.
- The update of the school's Resource Bank has been moved to September 2010. We will again use Constant Contact to survey for Parents' Talents and Expertise.
- Josh Kennedy will speak to Carol from the Boxford Town Library to see if she would be interested in having classes from Cole bring their "Books in Bloom" projects there for display.

School Improvement Plan Sub – Committee

- **Parent Survey** - The initial response to the Parent Survey was low, so Kathryn Nikas is sending reminders to parents to participate via Connect Ed, the Cole Connection and an email. Parent Focus groups will meet on Thursday April 15th and will be led by Beth Yando. Groups will discuss several key points derived from last year's Parents' Survey.
- **FAQ status** – Masco students will be updating the SC FAQ format for next year. Multi-Age FAQs have not yet been revised in-house as planned, using the current FAQ format so that parents will be aware of the changes that have been made to the Multi-Age FAQs.
- **PTO Wellness meeting** –The following nutrition issues were discussed at the meeting on March 12th.
 - Students will be able to purchase bottled water from the cafés for 50 cents at Cole and 75 cents at Spofford.
 - The recess and lunch times next year will be flipped, so that students are not rushing to get to recess. Having recess first will allow students to focus on eating their lunches.
 - Reducing the number of days that ice cream is sold is also being considered.

- **School Improvement Plan** – The SIP will be revised with one or two overarching themes and school wide focus, for example, writing. Data from surveys, input from grade level teams, the Leadership and Data teams as well as the Boxford School Committee’s Strategic Plan will all be used to inform the newly written plan. The target completion date for the new plan is the end of May 2010.

Other Items

- **Budget Process**- As of the date of this meeting, the budget is .65% or \$50,000 over last year’s budget. Health care costs increased 9% for next year. The Finance Committee has anticipated and planned for a possible cut of 4% from the state. Kathryn Nikas reported that initially free cash was a warrant article to be used for financing additional Smart Board technology, but that has been taken off the table to instead have free cash in reserve to used to make up any further reductions in state aid that may come to light in September.
- Town Meeting is in early May.