

City-wide PTA Meeting
May 4, 2016 7:00pm-8:00pm
East Wing Conference Room

Goals:

- 1) Open communication lines between school department and parents
- 2) Engage in collaborative decision making

Agenda:

- Introductions (5 min)
- PARCC Testing

Gave schedule

No major issues – a couple of log in issues

No questions

- End of Year Information

Add Lincoln Field Day on June 10th for Pre-K and K

- Summer Programs
 - Locations

Because Garfield School will be under construction, elementary students will be bussed to Beachmont Elementary where their summer sessions will take place. Details to follow.

No questions or comments

- Summer Food Service Program

We discussed awarding of contract and how it's a process with a committee.

Can we use volunteers to reduce the cost so we can get different food options?

Can we get more healthy choices in schools during the year and during the summer?

Can we spend more money to get more healthy choices?

Stacey will invite people to the quarterly meeting.

- Update: Garfield Roof

City moving forward with 7.8M bond. MSBA will return about 5.4M to the City. School Committee will take a vote of support too. Work expected to start right after school gets out. Will take all summer. Elementary school summer programs will be at Beachmont. Middle school programs will be at RMA

- Budget Update

Not much new news

Still working on the problem

Dianne will call Joe Boncore to make sure he is knowledgeable about the extent of the problem. Stacey felt he was a supporter based on their meeting at the Day on the Hill.

- PTO Support

Parents feel eliminating the field trips and night programs will be problematic

We don't want to alienate families by closing buildings early, etc.

PTA/O presidents will get together to talk about how to write grants and help those in schools who don't have a lot of funding.

Create a joint facebook page so PTA/O can share information on grant opportunities and try to make sure initiatives don't compete with each other.

- Substitute teachers

Dianne shared information about the recruitment fair that the RELB is planning for August. We discussed the School Committee recently increased the rate for subs – still don't make as much as Boston but their subs are on contracts. Substitute nurses will be recruited through the job fair as well.

- Cleaning Companies

In second year of 3 year contract

Parents and teachers saying issues with cleaning company at Garfield. Rugs not cleaned, same spot for days. Whelan, bathrooms don't seem cleaned. Lincoln school too.

Whelan PTO gave sanitizer. No soap in bathroom.

Perhaps we need a major cleaning midyear like we do in summer.

Dianne will talk to Carl Svendsen about defining and communicating the expectations. Perhaps have a punch list daily of items that need attention in each school.