

CABOT PTO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2016

- **Members in Attendance** (2 different meeting times to accommodate schedules)
 - 3:10 pm at Cabot: Jen Abbott, Eva Thompson, Sydney Balise, Cynthia Sanger, Nicky Chapman, Joe Guarino
 - 7:00 pm at Jen Abbott's house: Jen Abbott, Ali Dunn, Joanna Josephson, Agnes Pietrzyk, Kevin Sloan, Heather Mehra, Nicky Chapman
- **New PTO recording secretary Agnes Pietrzyk**
 - formal vote to be taken at General PTO meeting
- **Principal Search meeting with David Fleishman (Superintendent)**
 - Nov. 29th in the morning
 - One other date TBA
- **General PTO Meeting with David Fleishman and Newton School Committee: Dec. 19th**
- **Agenda for next General PTO Meeting (scheduled for Wed. Nov. 30th)**
 - High School Start Time presentation with Ruth Goldman
 - Ms. Goldman will give brief overview and go over the different scenarios
 - Presentation on Technology & kids
 - Given by Jill Liebowitz (Librarian) and Angie Galbraith (IT Specialist)
 - The talk will center on how to supervise and monitor kids on the internet
- **Building Transition news**
 - City Council should give approval by Nov. 30th
 - Eva Thompson (Interim Principal) wants to have a committee to start planning for a Cabot goodbye ceremony (Cabot celebration)
 - Celebration will not be tied in with the Cabot Fair
 - Need outreach to alumni and community
 - Will also ask Zervas and Angier about what they did for their celebrations
 - Discussion about getting an article out in the Newton Tab to spread the word (needs to be done ASAP)
 - Also need feedback from teachers about timing
 - Teachers went to Carr School last week, heard tips from Zervas teachers
 - Found out some rooms are a lot smaller
- **Upcoming events**
 - Book Fair (Dec. 8th); Early release day
 - Gift Drive (December)
 - Spring fling
 - Need people
 - Hope to have auction
 - Campaign for Cabot (Nov. 29th-Jan 13th)
 - My School Anywhere tool to donate
 - Will also link to Cabot PTO website
 - Paper letters with envelopes (hope to have these sent out the Monday after Thanksgiving)

- Want to show participation goal vs. monetary goal
 - Hope this will be more appealing and will get more families involved in donating
 - Can put the participation goal in Cabot weekly e-mail
 - Taste of the World (Deidre O'Connor heading this up)
 - Room parent training tomorrow
- **Grade Level Communications**
 - Events (Welcome picnics, play dates, etc.)
 - K registration will be changing
 - Initial parent meetings won't be done at the school (will now be done at the high school), then parents will bring their children to Cabot to get evaluated
 - PTO wants to see how we can support this
 - Also need to figure out transition for this role earlier
- **Cabot Playground Structure**
 - Ali Dunn (Asst. Treasurer) wants to see if structure can be relocated to another area so kids in community can still use it while renovation going on
 - Ali will reach out to Parks and Recs Dept. and talk to Alex to see how to go about this
 - Jen Abbott (President) states that there was talk of a plan to give Cabot Park a facelift to tie in with Cabot renovation
- **Nicky Chapman (Treasurer) passed around budget for members to look over**
- **Principal Search Process**
 - Will be roughly the same as last year
 - Parent reps for the search team
 - Selection Advisory Committee-3 parents to participate in interviews
 - Roundtable with finalists-5 parents
 - Parents can apply to either or both as last year
 - We also need alternates
 - Members agreed they liked the application process last year
 - Interviews may start in early January but NPS won't make final decisions until around Feb vacation
 - Need to think about timeline of application
 - Heather Mehra (past PTO president) brought up concern about lull in communication after interviews
 - Jen Abbott will reach out to David Fleishman about timeline of process
 - 3 other elementary schools are also looking for principals
- **Old school account needs to be closed out**
 - Funds in account should be given to the NPS student activities fund for Cabot and to the PTO account
 - Heather advocates that account closing should happen before Dec. 31st

MEETING ADJOURNED

