

CABOT PTO GENERAL MEETING NOTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2016, 7:00 PM
CABOT SCHOOL LIBRARY

- **Members in Attendance**
 - Jen Abbott, Eva Thompson, Nicky Chapman, Ali Dunn, Agnes Pietrzyk, Andrea Steenstrup, Ron Luce, Angie Gailbraith, Jill Liebowitz, Ginny Richmond, Anna Sicam, Jacqueline Badeau, Doug Murray? (from Newton South), Catherine Dun Rappaport, Joanna Josephson & one other (she left before I could get name)

- **District Start Time Presentation**
 - Presenter: Ruth Goldman, Newton School Committee
 - High School Start Time Working Group
 - Gathering data for over a year
 - Data shows that 12-18 year olds sleep best from around 11pm-8am
 - Full report on NPS website
 - 6 Start Time Scenarios
 - 1) Shift all schools 20 minutes later
 - No additional cost
 - 2) 8:30 am High School start
 - Bus costs increase
 - 3) Switch High school and Elementary school start
 - 4) Switch Elementary/High School start and shift
 - 5) 9:00 am High School start
 - 6) 8:00 am High School Start
 - Possible vote-Feb. 3, 2017
 - Working group would like feedback from everyone in the community
 - Link will be sent out
 - Letter was sent out last week from Superintendent David Fleishman (but may send it out again)
 - Ms. Goldman took questions from attendees of this meeting to elicit feedback
 - Concerns noted:
 - Traffic considerations
 - High school sports would be affected resulting in kids getting pulled out of class earlier to make games
 - Before and after school care costs
 - Transportation costs for the district
 - Full presentation will be available on Cabot PTO website

- **Presentation on Technology use at Cabot**
 - Presenters: Jill Liebowitz (Library Teacher) and Angie Galbraith (IT Specialist)
 - Types of technology used
 - 2 laptop carts with Macbooks, 2 laptop carts with Chromebooks, iPad carts

- Elmo, projector, 5 devices in classroom
 - Library: desktops, MacBook Airs and iPads
 - No separate computer labs because integrating technology into the curricula
 - The technology used at Cabot address the Common Core Standards
 - Bringing in digital literacy
 - Older kids use Google docs
 - Students are being taught how to be responsible cyber citizens
 - Important because kids in elementary school are using social networking sites
 - Talking with students about cyber-bullying and how to deal with it
 - Online safety
 - Acceptable Use Guidelines (AUG)
 - Library website has now been updated to allow students to use certain resources at home
 - Full Presentation will be available on Cabot PTO website
- **Vote on Nomination of Agnes Pietrzyk as PTO recording secretary**
 - Motion to approve nomination-Andrea Steenstrup
 - Motion seconded by several members
 - Vote taken, all in favor, nomination approved
- **Campaign for Cabot**
 - Trying to raise \$36,000.00
 - Will be sharing participation goal throughout the campaign
- **Building project and transition update**
 - MSBA has moved the plans for Cabot to the next module
 - Eva Thompson (Interim principal) will put out floor plans for everyone to see
 - Joanna Josephson (Building transition chair) told members about a few changes
 - Outdoor classroom has moved to a different location
 - Brick samples have been shown
 - It appears that the design will include a plan for a wall on which to relocate Humpty Dumpty
 - Next set of meetings has been scheduled
 - Joanna has an e-mail set up for the building transition
 - People can use e-mail to ask questions
 - E-mail will also be used to recruit help for Cabot celebration
- **Gifts to Staff**
 - Information about gift giving is on PTO website
 - Room parents can do a class gift
 - Monetary limits per year
 - Limitations on buying stuff for the classroom
 - Can request donations from the parents
 - Sign-ups should always be anonymous

- Individuals can't give gifts that have a monetary value
- **Vote to Approve October 6, 2016 PTO Meeting Minutes**
 - Members had a chance to look over minutes
 - Motion taken to approve minutes; seconded, vote taken, minutes approved
- **Upcoming events**
 - Book Fair (Dec. 8th); Early release day
 - Safe arrival/Callback
 - Understanding Our Differences (Dec. 13 & 15)
 - Library
 - Cabot celebration planning

MEETING ADJOURNED