

Stowe Community Group Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2018 - 6:30pm
Harriet Beecher Stowe Elementary School

Attendance: Shawn Gerwig, Kathleen Funderburk, Becky Wilcoff, Kim Bolshaw, Nikki Eggerling, Erin Hayes, Heather Martin (Director of AAE), Jill Ellis, Jessica Brissard, Kamis Ley, Josh Levy, Heather Blanchard

1. **Call to Order/Welcome:** Shawn Gerwig **6:30 PM**

2. **Principal's Report:** Heather Blanchard, Principal & Josh Levy, Assistant Principal
 - Enrollment is currently 657
 - 5210 Colors week celebration is starting February 12.
 - March 2nd jumprovers will be coming to encourage 5210
 - March begins MEA testing for grades 3, 4, and 5.
 - There will be a Parent info night for ALICE (this is an all district meeting). Officer Stanton and Pender Makin will be at HBS Feb. 13, 6:30. Teachers are loving the training and the common sense side of action. Kids do mini lesson in the class room with the take away to listen to adults in charge and follow directions. There will be no live action version for kids.
 - Gelato Fiasco fundraiser for 5th grade \$1700+ earned- well attended.
 - The school board budget process begins next week and each Wed. at 6:30 till all categories have been covered.

3. **Secretary Report:** Kathleen Funderburk, November minutes approved, January minutes approved

4. **Treasurer Report:** Dave Robertson (not in attendance)
2017-2018 budget discussion and questions:
 - **Do any committees have unspent money in their budget, or were they assumed to be spent or zeroed out in this proposed 2nd half of the year's budget if not already spent?**
 - Hospitality has already recieved their \$500 cash (it was given at the beginning of the year)
 - Logos has chosen not to replenish inventory at this time and will wave the \$500 budget for the season unless advised of additional funds becoming avialable.
 - **Shawn will double check for events on the pre-approved budget.**

5. **Spring Fundraiser:** Shawn Gerwig and Nikki Eggerling
 - This additional Spring fundraiser is intended to help with the cushion going into fall's beginning of the year expenses.
 - Nicky Eggerling presented a new fundraiser called United Script. HBS supporters can buy gift cards and the company gives the school a percentage of the money from the gift card. There is an \$8 additional charge for shipping the batch of cards to the school. **Nicky is looking into on- line options for parents to order.** An obsticle for SCG is the lag in reimbursement time. Another concern is sending gift cards home with kids. **Nicky is looking into any expiration date before a surcharge is imposed on the card.** Spring could be a trial run.
 - **SCG plans to have additional conversations later in the year discussing all major fundraising being all school events similar to the All Elementary Craft Fair.** In this scenerio the Readathon would replace the fall fund raiser .
 - **Another idea to discuss as an ongoing fundraiser** is SCG creating our own coffee from Coffe by Design (for every SCG bag bought, SCG recieves \$2). Additionally the gift cards could be ongoing as well.
 - SCG having access to funds quickly has been a huge obsticle for us, **we need to finalize if getting our own 501c3 is an option for SCG. Mr. Levy has been looking into this for us as we would potentially be insured under the school.** This has been approved by th school.

- There was additional discussion about a SCG Read-a-thon. **Whitney Reeves has agreed to run this event if decided on. A vote was taken and approved for Whitney Reeves to run a SCG Read-a-thon to be 1st 2 weeks of March. Whitney to touch base with Jill o'connor for any tie ins.** (March is national reading month and Dr. Suess's birthday)

6. **SCG FaceBook Policy Review:** Shawn Gerwig

We have FB administrators who monitor that all conversation on the SCG facebook page falls in line with the mission statement.

Stowe Community Group is the parent-teacher-community group at Harriet Beecher Stowe Elementary School (HBS). Our mission is to support the students, staff, parents and the school community. Our purpose is to enhance the educational opportunities and foster a sense of community for all families.

All things posted should be about things that SCG is sponsoring and initiating including school sponsored events. This does not include outside groups including parks and rec.

We had discussion about the following questions:

Is Facebook to create a community for parents of students to discuss things together? What is the community forum parents would like to see for discussing bigger more sensitive issues? How do we make sure that people are not shut down?

Committee Reports:

Fundraising:

Bobcat 5K - Erinn Rossignol: SEEKING TEAM MEMBERS particularly for the week before- Amy, Erin and Shawn are working together to come up with all tasks involved in order to get additional help. The race will be May 19. This is the 5th anniversary of the race. Amy Heily was instrumental in starting this event. How can we honor her. What communities can we touch base with to set up a group/team?

Box Tops & Labels for Education - Anne Daniel

Fall Fundraiser - Amanda Similien

All Elementary School Craft Fair - Meg Davis & Becky Kirker

Hannaford Helps Schools - Kym Shoemaker

Committees:

Community Events: Nichole Eggerling, Meggin Farrell, Amber Gross: March 2 Movie Night

Helping Hands: Terrie Cope

Hospitality (Teacher & Staff Appreciation): Diane Howard, Samantha Marini, Keisha Payson, Kym Shoemaker

Logo Items: Kathleen Funderburk

Scholastic Book Fair: Anne Daniel & Meggin Farrell

Student Directory: Mary Dinsmore

Sustainability (We Compost It!, CLYNK, Harriet's Haven, etc.): Kim Bolshaw Noetzel, Keisha Payson, Bonnie Gilman

Volunteer Coordinator (Walk/Bike to School Days, misc. volunteer requests): Somer Morgan & Becky Wilkoff

Winter Gear Give & Take: Stacey Jenkins, Jill Ellis, Sarah McPherson

7. **New Business**

- Heather Martin, the new director of AAE visited and gave us some sneak peaks into upcoming AAE events and fundraisers. March is national childrens art month. Frontier will host a fundraiser for ΔΔΕ of

diptych style art. At Coffin school kids will meet after school to create panels to go to frontier to be used in this diptych style art. This panel is then taken and given to grown up artist for them to create their panel in response. HBS kids will also be invited. The Cap is 30- first come first sign up. There will be an on line sign up. AAE is looking for kids who want to participate in the art panels. Look for more information to come home in a flyer. Save the date March 31st. 6-8 PM. Additionally, AAE will be going forward shifting timeline of art and fundraising. They are also looking at reigning in their budget. Heather can be reached at director@artsareelementary.org

- Teacher appreciation week is is first week in March
March 16 sweet and salty snacks
March 15 teacher luncheon salads and sandwiches
- **SCG bulletin board needs updated- new paper etc. Kim Bolshaw will take the charge on this. Anyone else is welcome to help out.** All thank you notes are currently displayed on the board.
- Colors week is the week before February break. Volunteers needed to help out at lunch- see sign up genius.
- HBS is collecting items for Tedford Shelter. Classes are starting to make posters in preparation.
- Clink- we are registered for the championship.

8. Meeting Adjourned: 7:55

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 8, 6:30pm