

## January 2016 Bowman PTA Minutes

January 20th from 6:30-7:30 followed by a talk by Nurse Claffey about Safety at School for Children with Food Allergies. We had a very big turnout. Many people came to the meeting because they were coming for the talk. Thank you Nurse Claffey!

### Budget Update

-Currently we are at a loss of \$9K (half of what we projected).

#### \*5th Grade Activities

-\$1100 donations from 5th grade parents- little less than what we hoped for.

-Spaghetti dinner is in February- it is an all-school event run by 5th graders to raise money for Nature's Classroom.

-What % of 5th grade families are participating?

-Yearbook: can PTA purchase digital cameras and publishing software to be used by yearbook committees?

#### \*ACT

- Budget of \$7K - we have spent \$5K.

- On track this year.

- Paid more for Museum of Science than in the past.

#### \*School Pictures

- Made almost \$2K

#### \*Book Fair

- Netted \$2700- less than last year.

- This is lower than expected due to high volume of sales.

- We are looking into the reason; perhaps the vendor charged more.

#### \*Spirit Wear

- Netted \$850

- We made more than any other school

### \*Box Tops

- Just received a check for \$700
- We should receive one more check this year

### Updates from Mary

#### \*Technology

- The staff would love a couple more ELMOs (document camera) because some classrooms don't have them and there are common areas where they do professional development
- If PTA makes a technology donation, they would want the ELMOs

#### \*5th Grade teachers are trying out a new program using books for interactive discussions

- kids put annotations in books for current and future Bowman students to read.
- kids tend to be more thoughtful with comments, knowing they are permanent
- fund using mini grant that 5th grade teachers would write

#### \*School Safety

- During PTA events the doors to Bowman will be locked (back to old policy)
- Someone would have to man the door during events.
- Lexington is well prepared to keep our schools safe
- Staff have received training in ALICE (Alert-Lockdown-Inform-Counter-Evacuate)
- Bowman staff was trained last year and there is a crisis team that keeps school updated and trained

### Science Fair

- Thursday, Jan 28 from 7 – 8 pm at Bowman
- Need people to help set up starting at 6
- Email Christina (linbutler@gmail.com) if you can help

### Bowman PTA Website

- An invaluable resource for the Bowman community to get updates, questions answered, and forms on all of the goings on at Bowman

- A big THANK YOU to Maura Fiske for creating and maintaining the website for the last 5 years
- We welcome Hien Nguyen who will take over the website on Feb. 1st
- Go to [www.bowmanpta.org](http://www.bowmanpta.org) for all of the latest news!

### School Building Project Update

- \*School Committee is asking for funding
  - To expand Clarke and Diamond
  - Possibly for space mining for LHS guidance office and nurse's office
  - Standard Modules -2 at Bowman, 2 at Bridge and 2 at Fiske
    - The 2 at Bowman would expand off 5th grade wing so we don't infringe on playground space
      - Dec. 2016 is date projected to be ready
      - Modules will be used to alleviate issues at Bowman- NOT add more students

- \*Bowman Exec board voted unanimously to support Debt Exclusion
  - There will be a campaign to fund school projects

- \*Superintendent Dr. C is asking for \$ 98million school budget for 2016-2017 school year
  - increased because of growing enrollment and mandated programs (special ed programs)

- There are 2 openings on the School Committee- Vote March 1st
- Sandro seeking re-election,
  - Margaret Coppe is vacating
  - Claire Sheth, Eileen Jay and Mark Anderson are seeking first term

- \*Keep informed of all LPS News by going to [www.bowmanpta.org](http://www.bowmanpta.org)
- There are links to all the goings on at Bowman and around town

### Upcoming Dates:

- Science Fair- Jan. 28th
- Walk to School Wednesday- Feb. 10th
- February Vacation- February 15th-19th
- Spaghetti Dinner- February 25th

Next PTA Meeting- February 24th in Bowman Library at 6:30

