

## MEDWAY SECONDARY HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION, INC

**Meeting minutes:** February 04, 2010

**Members Present:** Judy Yasi, Elise Kokoszka, June Miller, Ruth Irr, Lisa Brady, Diane Citron, Cathy Spinazola, & JoAnne Muench

**Call to order:** 6:05 p.m.

**President's Announcements:** Welcome Joanne Senier-LaBarre. Joanne has come to give us an update of events that have taken place at the Middle School. The Historian Society of Boston & The Boston Duck Tour sponsored a contest in which the students had to write about a Massachusetts National Park. The Middle School received five honorable mentions with Danny McCormick winning first prize which includes a Limo bus picking up his English class and transporting them to Boston for a Duck Tour. The winning essay was written about the New Bedford Whaling Museum who sent a ranger to invite the same class to visit them also.

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade held their annual science Fair with two students tying for 1<sup>st</sup> place. One student's project was on wind tunnels and the other built a machine for measuring the speed of paint balls.

This coming Sunday the Math Counts team goes to the Regionals in Weston.

The funding for the program for the 7th grade Jail Trip has been cut out completely by the state.

There have been many rumors that the Superintendent has cut the Environmental trip but this is not true. The current coordinator Megan Boland asked for more money and the Superintendent has agreed to match the \$300 the Home and School donates for her stipend. The dates for the trip next year are September 27<sup>th</sup> through October 1<sup>st</sup>. Kristen Diebus and Laurie Petinge will coordinate this trip for the Home and School. Homeroom mothers can do a lot of the paperwork but the office will take care of the returned forms due to confidentiality issues. Currently we have \$12,000 in this account. There will be a new fundraiser this year as the light bulbs seem to last forever. It will be a flower fundraiser with the product being delivered directly to the purchaser's home, and a 50/50 profit. The kick off meeting will be after February vacation and an e-mail will go out to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents informing them of this fundraiser. Joanne likes the trip but doesn't like the fact that the 7th and 8<sup>th</sup> grader end up with substitute teachers for a week when their teachers chaperone the trip. She has asked Megan Boland to look into a 2 ½ day trip for next year.

Joanne would also like to have an internet safety meeting as there are some issues with 5<sup>th</sup> graders posting blogs and being very mean to other children.

Next year the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be in teams of two and a new 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade class will be added.

**Vice President's Announcements:** None.

**Secretary's Minutes:** Minutes approved for December 9, 2009 and January 6, 2010.

**Treasurer's report:** Approved.

**Bake Sale:** The Bake Sale held during the election in January made \$1,440.00

**After Prom Party:** The first meeting will be next Tuesday, February 9th. Would like to get the junior involved and also need more coordinators and new ideas for decorations and fund-raising. Need to get class officers excited about it and to "talk it up".

**School Committee Update/Feedback:** This will be a new item on our agenda. For the past four years the combined contributions of the Elementary and Secondary Home and School has been \$275,870.32. Shelly Wieler is our representative from the School Committee.

**Other Business:** The Health Advisory committee had a meeting last Monday. The parents would like to retain the right to send in what they want for their kid's birthdays. Deb Trindade, member of the School Committee, said "Parents don't have a right to send in anything". When concerns were raised about the communication of this new policy to the parents, the Superintendent said "It is not my job to get the word out but the Building Principles". Outside agencies have brought in food and invested in inventory so the policy will not take effect until the next school year. How does this new policy affect the Snack Shack, Holiday Parties, Teacher Appreciation, etc? How can we make parents aware of this new policy?

Our meeting this month was moved from Wednesday February 3<sup>rd</sup> to Thursday February 4<sup>th</sup> so we could attend "Taylor's Message", a presentation at the High School immediately following our meeting.

**Next Meeting:** March 3, 2010, at 7:30p.m., in the Guidance Area of Medway High School.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne B. Muench, Secretary, MSHSA