

MSAD #51 PTO
Monthly Informational Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2008 North Yarmouth Memorial School

Present: Maggie Alexander, Laurie Alves, Linda Boardman, Chistine Boure, David Brown, Kelley Craig, Val Currier, Virginia Dwyer, Shari Elder, Becky Foley, Heather Giandrea, Tom Gilley, Gloria Nicholson, Andrea Peabbles, Sara Perfetti, Brenda Pitcher, Deb Regan, Melissa Skahan, Becky Sledjeski.

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Tom called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Tom welcomed newcomers and guests. Introductions were made.

2. **Presentation and Q&A**

Tom welcomed NYMS Principal Becky Foley. Becky introduced 5th grade teacher Maggie Alexander to speak. Maggie shared that the 5th grade used PTO enrichment funds to bring Gordon Corbett for a science presentation on Energy and to help set up an energy unit that includes an end of the year field trip to Fun Town where students test their knowledge of friction and centrifugal force.

4th grade teacher Laurie Alves shared that 7 of the 9 4th grade classes experienced a Field Trip at Maine Maritime where they learned about the workings of the Popham Colony to enrich the Colonization Unit. The remaining classes will visit in the spring. PTO funds were also used to fund National Geographic mini magazines to enhance non-fiction reading.

Becky gave a presentation on the accomplishments of NYMS. She said that NYMS was “committed to student discovery and attaining personal best.” She shared statistics about the Everyday Math program now in the 6th year. This year a new edition is being used and the staff has given positive feedback. She also presented information about the “Units of Study” Writing Program now in the 2nd year of implementation. Each class has 4 writing workshops and 5 hours of instruction weekly. Last year classes completed 3 “units”, this year the goal is to complete 5. The program will provide consistency from year to year from Grades k-5. Students are showing a passion for writing and are given more freedom to be in charge of their subject matter, choosing topics that are interest driven.

In reading, the goal is to increase explicit instruction through guided reading, vocabulary instruction, leveled texts, and the use of the comprehension toolkit. A high % of students at NYMS continue to meet or exceed MEA Standards in math, writing, and reading and we consistently rank 1st or 2nd among neighboring schools in these areas of study.

As for extra curricular activities, Becky shared that students are participating in chorus, band (5th grade), yearbook (one rep per class), color guard (5th grade), and math team (5th grade).

Becky and the staff thanked the PTO for all their support throughout the year.

3. Approval of November Minutes

Deb moved to accept the November Minutes, Kelley seconded.
Motion carried.

4. New & Old Business

a) No Name Calling Week January 21-25th

Heather shared information about “No Name Calling” week at Mabel I Wilson. Vickie Bell and Katie Campbell are co-chairing the event. Activities will include a bulletin board at MIW; a book display in the library, HS students will be reading books on the subject of bullying and presenting skits in the cafeteria, daily announcements with inspirational messages, “Be Kind” stickers donated by a corporate sponsor, “Be Kind” posters on the bus, and a Poster Contest, among other things. Heather asked Deb to assist in finding parent volunteers for that week to assist with games at recesses.

b) Tom took time recognize Melissa as she has resigned to take a job outside the school system. We all thank Melissa for all her work. Melissa assured us that she is still very committed to the district and will continue to oversee the Greely Fund and will remain on the PTO board for the rest of the year. We wish her all the best.

5. Committee Reports

a) Treasurers Report

The report was handed out. Additional information was shared.

- A check for \$1743.88 was received for Box Tops, which is up from the \$1200 budgeted!
- An additional \$3200 was received from Sally Foster!
- \$900 was paid out for the 8th Graders to attend Camp Kiev
- \$218 was brought in from Holiday Workshop!

The tax return was filed.

b) Volunteer

Deb will be scheduling a meeting with Enrichment Chairs. Deb & Melissa will meet before Melissa’s last day on January 25.

c) Events

Brenda reported that Holiday Workshop was a success. She thanked Sara for her help. January is a quiet time and planning of upcoming activities will begin soon.

d) Fundraising

Gloria reported that Sally Foster is finally “wrapping” up. (Couldn’t resist!) She and Donna are beginning to approach businesses about the Purchase Plus card. Olympia Sport is among those they will ask. Any ideas should be forwarded to them. “Touch A Truck” will again be held Memorial Day. Melissa will check on how the HS construction project might affect that.

e) Web Site

Be sure to send your updates!

f) Publicity

No report.

g) Enrichment

Becky reported that the 3rd grade is on target with their spending and that she will forward pictures to Tyra of their events.

There will be another International Baccalaureate information session scheduled for April.

h) Secretary

No report.

i) Co-Chair

Tom passed out a written report. See attached.

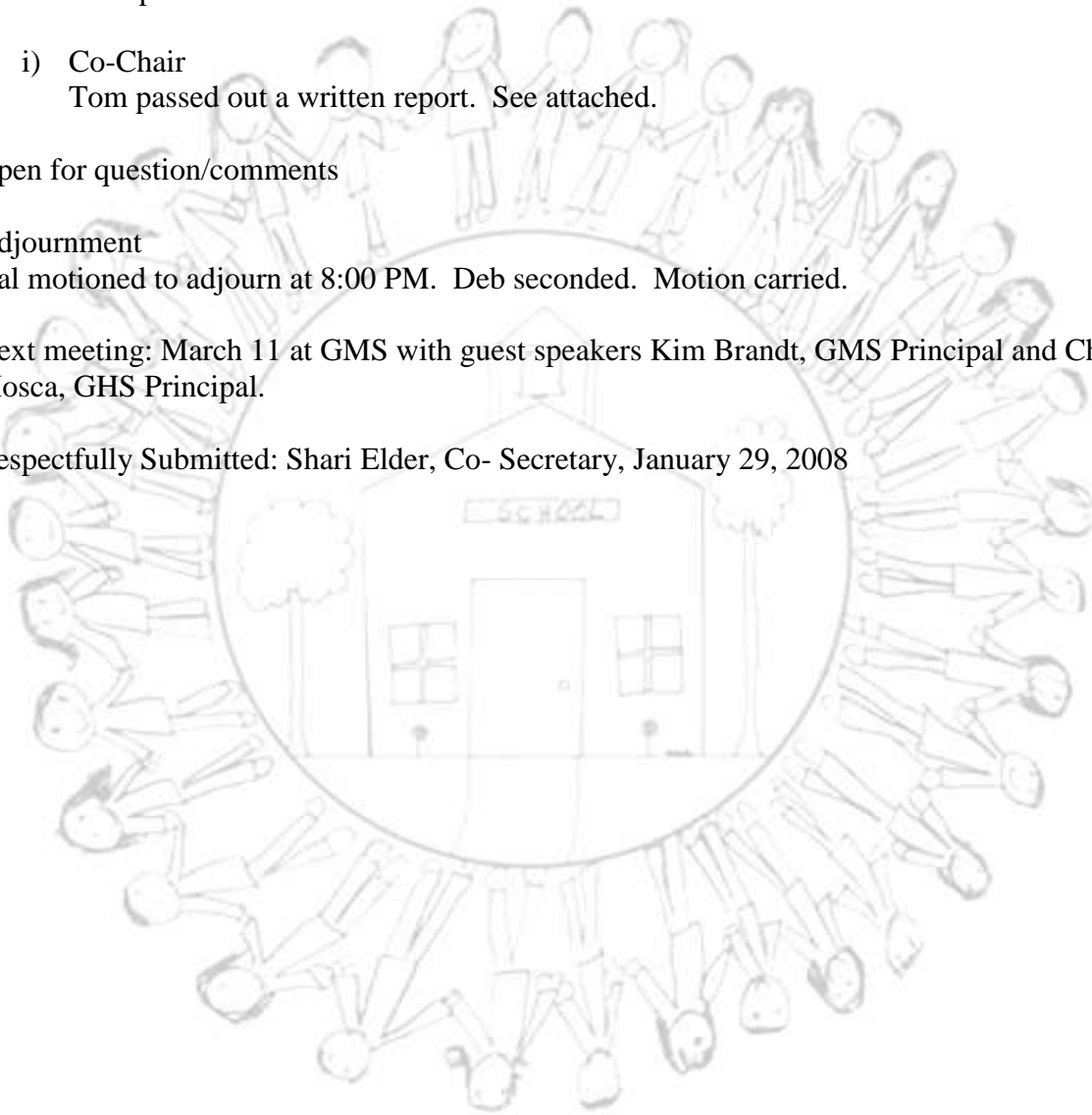
6. Open for question/comments

7. Adjournment

Val motioned to adjourn at 8:00 PM. Deb seconded. Motion carried.

Next meeting: March 11 at GMS with guest speakers Kim Brandt, GMS Principal and Chris Mosca, GHS Principal.

Respectfully Submitted: Shari Elder, Co- Secretary, January 29, 2008



MSAD 51 PTO Chair Notes
January 2008

Boxtops- Received a check for \$1,743.88. Next and final check this year will be in April, outlook good for another \$500~ . Currently have two raffles running in addition to regular prizes. More info at www.MSAD51PTO.com and www.boxtopsforeducation.com . Check out the Boxtops site for more info and ways to get Boxtops for our schools.

Ericka Winchester is slated to become our new coordinator for the remainder of the year, we will be meeting at some point this month to discuss the duties.

Newsletter: Due to lack of news and events Christine and I are postponing our written letter or “Refrigerator Bling” until next month.

In search of... parents, teachers, family members who are willing to join our PTO team. We have some openings now and some positions opening up at the end of the year, so let’s start looking now for some new faces. Send your thoughts ideas and lists of names to me or to our volunteer guru Deb Regan.

I want to take a moment to recognize an outstanding member of our community, Melissa Skahan, who is currently serving on the PTO as GHS Enrichment chair and is leaving her position in the district as Director of Development and Volunteers. While she will still be working with us on the PTO at least for the remainder of the year, it is with a very sad heart that I see her leaving the district. Melissa is, in my opinion, a linchpin in making this community what it is. She has selflessly done more for this community across a broad spectrum than anyone I know. During the time I have known her if there was something I needed, a question answered, or just a sympathetic ear she was always there and unflinchingly calm with the answer. While I am saddened by her leaving I do wish her nothing but the best success in all her new endeavors, and hope that she knows that she has made a positive impact on many generations to come.

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Chris Mosca GHS Principal

Submitted—Tom Gilley PTO Chair

Attachment 1:

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