

## Champlain PTO Meeting - January 13, 2010

### Present:

Principal: Leslie Colomb

Staff/Teachers: Matt Hadjun, Rebecca Haslam, Regina Farrell

Parents: Jessica Nordhaus, Jenny Breckenridge, Mary Riley, Russell Beste, Patrick Halladay, Melissa McConnell, Silvia Jope, Gwen Causer, Dawn Moskowitz, Diane Officer, Kristin Devoe-Talluto, Leslyn Hall, Gary Causer

### Proceedings:

#### The following events were reviewed and Thank You's were given for the following:

The ramp ribbon cutting, the Parent Resource Center Grand Opening, the Parent Breakfast, the Winter Assembly and Toys for Kids Drive (the 3rd grade team, Betsy Greene for all those songs and all those who sang them!), Tammy Charbonneau for the unit and finally, Mother Nature for providing the snow.

#### Announcements:

Rebecca Haslam and Stephanie Gorman reported on the February Community event, which will benefit COTS. They are currently gathering donation information for this event, which will be 2/15.

Silvia reported on the parent coffee, which was held in the art room. Classroom updates were given.

There are positions open on several school committees:

-The climate committee, which is Chaired by Ms. Cowell and Ms. Gorman, deals with how the school can connect more with the community and also brings the school community together once a month. It has events planned for the year. This committee meets once a month at 2:45-3:45.

-The other committee position open is on the Disciplinary Committee, which is chaired by Karen Prouty. A parent is required to be on this committee. Membership in this committee requires attending a 3 day workshop at the Lake Morree Inn on March 17-19. This committee meets once a month on a Tuesday from 2:45-3:45.

The Blue Note is being revamped by Kristen Devoe-Talluto and Roxanne Scully. They are looking for someone to coordinate this. This will require a large time commitment, approx 1 1/2 hours per week. It would be helpful if this person had design skills and vision.

Parent Education Workshop: Melissa reported that the next one will be Wednesday, March 17.

Safe Routes to School: Leslyn reported the mapping is on hold until after the school year ends. She will be meeting with the Department of Public Works and Karen Paul re and infrastructure grant. Certain intersections are missing a crossing guard. She secured a grant for a Scooter Shed.

Fundraising Reports: Lots of coffee is being sold, we have more t-shirts available, we will have a pizza sale soon, we got a check for several hundred dollars for boxtops, we may sell notecards again, Roxanne may have another fun week, and she is still working on the letters.

Sustainable Schools Committee: Farm2School Lunch 4 Dinner: Representatives want to come prepare "lunch for dinner" to promote this program, as well as to promote families eating dinner one night per week together. The date will be determined.

Basil VanSuch is the new webmaster

Jenny will check on zoning for the new street sign.

Continuation of the 3 C's: Communications, Collaboration and Building Community.

The faculty will process ideas before the PTO comes together. The faculty needs time to think about what they would like from the parents, as each teacher has different needs.

Leslie reviewed the 10 year old Family Compact, which is in the Family Handbook, which will be updated.

Parents brainstormed to find additional ways parents can feel more involved. The goal was to identify where it makes sense for parents to collaborate with the teachers which is not already being done. There was a suggestion to start small, identifying 2 things that can meaningfully contribute to the school. Additionally, parents were asked to e-mail 2 other parents to identify the same thing. Teachers will identify what is currently being done, and how/what helps.

### **Action Items/Wrap Up**

Jenny will check on zoning for the new street sign.

Parents will identify 2 ways to meaningfully contribute to the school (which aren't currently being implemented) and ask 2 additional parents to do the same and to notify Jenny, Jessica, and Leslie.