



ABORN SCHOOL
409 EASTERN AVENUE
LYNN, MA 01902

“Work hard. Respect others. Follow the Golden Rule.”

Ms. Patricia Muxie
Principal

Telephone
781-477-7320

SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL AGENDA

October 30, 2013

Minutes

I. Introduction of Members and Thank-you for Services

After ensuring that all members knew each other, Ms. Muxie thanked everyone for their agreement to participate on this year's Council.

II. School Improvement Plan Goals

Ms. Muxie reviewed this year's School Improvement Plan, paying special attention to our areas of focus. Student learning objectives will include the following:

- Students will improve oral reading fluency with the aim of improving comprehension.
- Students will improve their skills in the following three genres of writing: persuasive, informational, and personal narrative.
- Students will demonstrate use of various strategies to unlock meanings of unknown vocabulary in all content areas.
- Students will use test taking skills and problem solving strategies to solve Open Response and Short Answer questions in Math. They will connect any applicable Open Response question strategies they are using in ELA to Math.
- Students will demonstrate increased understanding of concepts related to equal shares and fractions as well as measurement.

III. Improved Communication Plans and Events

Ms Muxie will be sending out a letter to parents asking them what language they prefer for important notices. She will be working with the webmaster on updating photo collages she's been making since September. She will continue to send Connect Ed messages as she has had a good response to those. The group had a lengthy discussion about the use of Facebook for the school. Ms. Muxie voiced some concerns which were addressed by Mr. Eddy. Ms. Muxie has agreed to investigate and explore this option further. She will give the group a full update at our next meeting.

IV. Uniform Survey Results and Discussion

We recently sent out a parent survey to get their opinion on whether or not they would be in support of having Aborn students wear uniforms. The idea was surprisingly popular. Vote count was: 126 YES and 48 NO. We will discuss results of the vote at the upcoming PTO meeting. Other discussion around this agenda item revolved around what the uniform would look like. Council thought a uniform polo shirt with school logo would be appropriate and yet economical. Students could still wear any type of pants with the polo. We would wait until September for full implementation if we do go forward with the idea, but perhaps starting this January, we could have a special day once a week that would be designated Polo Day.

V. News from GE

Ms. Muxie would like to give our Art Room a makeover. She approached Dave Hyde and our partners at GE with the idea and they would love to do it. They are currently raising funds to complete the project and hope to complete the fundraising in the winter. They will do the actual work in the Spring or Summer. The project

would take approximately 2-3 weeks so if it is started in the Spring, an alternative placement for Art sessions would need to be in place prior to the start of work.

VI. Apple iPads Are In!

We finally received our 11 iPads from the Hardscrabble Grant we applied for last year. They had to be scanned and prepared by the IT Department prior to use. Students and staff are looking forward to using them. Their primary purpose will be for use by Grades 4&5 students involved in the research study for the Motion Math product, however, they will also be available for use by other students and staff on a sign-out basis.

VII. Healthy Schools Program

This is an optional program for Lynn Schools to participate in which Ms. Muxie heard about through one of her administrative meetings with Dr. Latham. It focuses on nutrition, fitness, and staff wellness. The Aborn School will be participating in this for the current school year. More details will be forthcoming as the program unfolds. One thing that has already happened is that Ms. Muxie received notification of a grant related opportunity. She asked if she could use funds to purchase a bike rack for students to use. The answer was yes. Council members thought that would be a good idea and we discussed possible locations.

VIII. Sally Ride Foundation Books

The Sally Ride Foundation is dedicated to promoting student achievement and career awareness in the area of Science. Ms. Muxie received an email from the foundation asking if she would be interested in receiving books related to Science Standards. The books would be free provided that she track the use of the books over the course of the year. She received the books and is now distributing them to the most appropriate grade according to the MA frameworks and Next Gen Science standards.

IX. Upcoming Meeting Dates

The following are the projected meeting dates for the rest of the year:

January 16 2:45-3:45

March 13 2:30-3:30

May 22 2:45-3:45

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50.