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# Shoemaker School

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26 Regina Road, Lynn, MA 01904  
781-477-7450, FAX 477-7454

Patricia L. Riley, Principal

email: [rileyp@lynnschools.org](mailto:rileyp@lynnschools.org)

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## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

MEETING : January 15, 2015 at 2:30 – 3:30

### AGENDA/MINUTES

Present: Pat Riley, Phyllis O'Brien, Rachel Pendergast, Chizuko Yoshida, Jocelyn Almy-Testa, Amanda Drezek

Absent: Jenn MacKinnon

- Review the school Action Plan designed to improve student achievement
  - ❖ Pat Riley reviewed the Action Plan discussing the format for Open Houses, APTT, and a focus on improving achievement by increasing the CPI in Reading, Math, and Science.
- Accountability Status (MCAS)
  - ❖ Shoemaker is designated as a Level 2 school based on MCAS data. Teachers are working on the Action Plan to increase achievement.
- PlayWorks/recess – discuss and review
  - ❖ Rachel Pendergast explained how recess is implemented. Students have choices and all of recess is inclusive so that students are moving and not sitting or just standing around. Problems have significantly decreased (there are minimal injuries and conflicts between students. Transition inot the cafeteria and classrooms are much smoother.
- APTT (Academic Parent Teacher Teams) – discuss and review
  - ❖ Discussed as part of Action Plan discussion.
- FAR- Formative Assessment for Results
  - ❖ Phyllis O'Brien talked about this staff development which involves lesson planning and using formative assessments to determine what students understand and what they need further practice on.

- Other
  - ❖ Pat. Riley explained that a glass company has replaced one window and done a mockup for work specs and price. We are waiting to see if the city will be able to replace all plexi-glass windows with glass. The one window that has been done has made a huge difference in the appearance of the school.
  - ❖ PTO – Pat. Riley updated parents on PTO activities.
    - They will do a Dr. Seuss Read Aloud for K-2 classrooms, provide all students with a Dr. Seuss pencil, and sponsor a Dr. Seuss book review contest for Grades 3-5. This replaces the Green Eggs and Ham Breakfast.
    - They are requesting permission from the Superintendent (Dr. Latham) and the School Committee to install a shed in back of the school for storage. Jocelyn Almy-Testa suggested that PTO ask LVTI if they could build the shed, ask a business to donate the lumber, and/or ask Habitat for Humanity if they have excess wood they could donate or sell cheaply (once approval has been given).
  - ❖ Allergy Policy- Pat. Riley updated the council on efforts Shoemaker has made to ensure the safety of students with allergies. Parents have been asked not to send in allergens to the classroom for snack and to limit these products to the cafeteria. Students in grades K-1 have been provided with a baggie for snack items so that they are not near possible allergens packed for lunch. Principals will attend an informational meeting/training in February.
  - ❖ Extra for Creative Use – Jocelyn Almy-Testa, Director, explained how Extras works. Lynn Public School teachers can pay \$30 and visit up to 6 times per year. The PTO could pay \$250 for 18 teachers (18 visits). This information will be passed onto the PTO. Extras has materials that can be used in classrooms. Mrs. Almy-Testa also provides assistance with lesson planning and using materials to make lessons hands-on and interactive.
  - ❖ Camp Fire – Amanda Drezek explained that Camp recently increased slots to 39 per day. The original 26 slots were not enough. The staff has worked out well. Activities are designed for students be active at the beginning because they have been sitting all day. Homework and other quiet time activities are also incorporated.
  - ❖ Peter Pan, the Play- This school event was coordinated by Mrs. Potter. It was a great event for the whole school with a lot of parent involvement. Parents made scenery and costumes.
- Next meeting: March 10, 2015 ay 2:30. If there are issues or concerns prior to this any member can let Mrs. Riley know and we will meet earlier.