

WMS PTO Minutes - September 23, 2011

MEETING COMMENCED 9 AM

1. KC Kato, School Committee Rep:
 - a. Provided an update on WMS Renovation
 - b. Enrollment expected to peak 2013
 - c. Last Fall Renovation approved 7 Rooms / 4 Class Rooms / 3 SpEd spaces
 - d. Lecture Halls Under Construction – will be done in November
 - e. 6th grade 415
 - f. Last WHS graduation class 270
 - g. WHS to open in February
 - h. Old WHS to come down by summer, 2012
 - i. Landscaping in fall, 2012
 - j. Parking lot finished in winter, 2012

2. KC Kato and other town officials are going to do a 'road show' on town government and are coming to WMS PTO meeting on October 20, 2011. This will be 1st agenda items for 1st 20 minutes of the next meeting.

3. Jamie Chisum – Principal Overview
 - a. 13th years in Wellesley
 - b. School started well, morale seems really good
 - c. Jamie did 100 interviews with parents to learn about school
 - d. Some new teachers, new SpEd Dept. Head
 - e. First impressions teachers work very hard to know the children really well. Have a lot of meetings to get
to know the children.
 - f. Belmont / Sudbury have similar size middle schools

4. Race to Nowhere film on Nov 2
 - a. Two problems in education ignored;
 - i. Schools not making it
 - ii. Overstressed children

5. Discussion on school lunch:
Contact Patrick Spencer pspencer@wellesleyma.gov
 - a. on the issue. He has been very helpful

6. Discussed equipment loss.

7. Discussed homework
 - a. Maybe discussion for a another meeting
 - b. Efficiency of home work
 - c. Quality vs. quantity

8. Rhonda METCO – looking for Wellesley families helping METCO children, Nov 17 evening PTO meeting in Boston

9. Treasurer reporting by Delissa Prideaux
 - a. Possible uses of surplus
 - i. Teachers requests
 - ii. New fridges for teachers lounge

- iii. Funding for METCO
 - b. Voted to outsource directory
 - i. cost to increase from \$1,400 to \$2,000
 - ii. will get done faster
 - iii. Approved
 - c. Collected \$57,000 so far in dues
 - d. 1100 students, 700 families
 - e. Voted to approve initial budget
 - i. Approved
 - ii. Budget passed as amended.
10. Liz Weaver – School Council
- a. 4 new members on school council
 - b. 4 teachers showed interest – will have own election
 - c. 4 parents showed interest
 - d. Formed in 1993
 - e. Focus is education needs and school improvement plan
 - f. 2010 / 2011 Projects:
 - i. Student empowerment
 - ii. Self advocacy
 - iii. Feeling valued
11. Various Committee Chairs presented:
- Green team:
- a. Oct 5 bikers & bus riders included as walkers
 - b. International walk to school day
 - c. Green Lunch for teachers
 - d. Bulletin Board for Café
- Spirit Wear
- a. New item: Under Armour w/ WMS Logo
12. Newsletter Compliments
- a. Email blast are great
 - b. Very efficient
13. WEF
- a. Pave the plaza program for WHS going in WEF - Website

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:15AM