

# **Wellesley Middle School PTO Meeting**

**September 20<sup>th</sup> , 2013 8:45-10:15 AM**

**WMS Cafeteria**

## **Minutes of the Meeting**

### ✓ **Speaker David Lussier, Superintendent of WPS**

- Dean Blase, Director of Curriculum & Instruction. 40 new teachers and 7 or 8 administrators.
- Strategic Plan: Four main objectives
  - 1) Focus on every child, every classroom, every day.  
Kids assessments to ensure we know how every kid is doing now and not just based on MCAS results.
  - 2) Invest in our educators.  
Help and coach our educators to be more successful.
  - 3) Provide broad based learning opportunities.  
Checking what the kids need to learn. Kids need to be good communicators, be able to adapt to different circumstances and learn from their own mistakes.
  - 4) Align resources with education needs  
First focus is to be more efficient with the resources that we already have.
- School Facilities Master Plan  
Process of evaluating the different needs from the schools and analyzing. Some work needs to be done now at Schofield and Fiske and next will be Hardy, Hunnewell and Upham.
- FY2015 Budget

The town economy health is strong and now is the time to

participate and support the School Committee.

- 2014- 2015 Calendar

The town is engaging the community and the staff to analyze if any changes should be proposed to finish earlier in June, while accomplishing the 180 days of schools.

- ✓ **Q&A with Dean Blase, Director of Curriculum & Instruction**

- 1) Is the Ipad one on one initiative promoting a passive use of technology?

No, as the idea is to engage the students not to stay on the surface but go deep in using/creating applications.

- 2) STEM curriculum is a focus: Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and the goal is to strengthen and expand those offerings, including using after-school opportunities.

- ✓ **Spotlight: WEF**

They raise money from the community and give it back to the community. Their main fundraisers are:

- 1) Annual Appeal

- 2) WEF 24<sup>th</sup> Spelling Bee (will take place November 7<sup>th</sup> at Sprague at 7 PM)

- 3) Red Apple Program (donations in the name of a teacher or staff you want to honor)

For more information on WEF please go to their web page:  
[www.wellesleyeducationfoundation.org](http://www.wellesleyeducationfoundation.org)

- ✓ **The 2013-2014 Budget was unanimous approved.**
  
- ✓ **PTO Announcements:**
  - Online Directory/Email communications: Everyone has to register in the online directory in order to receive PTO emails and be in the directory (print & online).
  - Check PTO and WMS websites for information and volunteer opportunities.
  - Upcoming events:
    - Friday, 9/20 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Dance, 7- 9PM
    - Wednesday, 9/25 Activities Fair, 2:30, WMS Cafeteria
    - Thursday, 9/26 Back to School Night, 6:45- 9 PM
    - Friday, 10/18 PTO meeting, with Mark Ito & Kate Mahoney, 8:45 AM
    - Wednesday 11/6 Social Media internet safety presentation for parents Speaker: Katie Greer, 7 PM, WMS auditorium
    - Thursday 11/14 PTO meeting WMS& WHS, Boston, 7:30 PM
    - 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Socials will take place on Friday October 18th (more information coming).
  
- ✓ **The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM**

Submitted by Andrea Doglioli