

Green Meadow School Council
March 7, 2005 Minutes

Present Members:

Bernadette McLaughlin, Fred Chi, Timothy Sullivan, Priscilla Cotter, Kristen Richardson, Hanne Mulley, Nancy Messina, John Mason

Attending: Bill Kohlman, Marie Kotlowski,

Minutes: Tim Sullivan (note this coincides with the first Red Sox-Yankees match up in the 2005 Spring Training Schedule - 27 days till opening day)

I: Public Input - none

II: Minutes Review

- a. (February 7, 2005) - Voted as is - no changes.
- b. (January 3, 2005) - Voted as is - no changes.

III: Current Status

- Planning on Math night March 17th - team leaders will be presenting alternate date not to coincide with St. Patrick's Day.
- Towns across the area are dealing with budget overrides and various scenarios of budget cuts, perhaps as much as a 5% reduction. Major impact could affect staff size of GM, this would in turn have a roll over effect of class size.
- Vernal Pool with the Grade 2 has been in the past seen funding from Grants and NMEF. These donations have recently been scaled back. Two parents have in turn organized a "Hoop-a-Thon" to raise \$ for the Vernal Pool. It will run from 6:30-7:30 on March 9. The classes will work as teams, raising money from donations on the # of baskets made.
- Grade 2 and the Vernal Pool will be working with the Hudson School Department, as they too have received a Grant.
- MCAS Booklet; a Grade 3 MCAS test prep binder has been assembled that will be available to the 3rd grade parents that have requested it. Presently there are 77 booklets have been prepared. The goal of this booklet is to provide the student and parents with a study guide prior to the exam.
- Dr. Masterson is preparing to attend a luncheon March 16th with Nancy Messina. The speaker is the same individual that has provided research on the school hour change. This may be addressed at the luncheon on sleep disorders.
- Open discussion regarding the joint meeting held last month with the Fowler School Committee. An overall opinion that appeared to resonate from the review is the at this stage of the discussion, the Fowler Committee needs to return with some formal and concrete data and research to review before any more time GM spends on looking into this matter. Future efforts regarding this matter is contingent on data, research, additional discussions, and varied proposals from Fowler.
- "Mochachino with Mark" update - The Superintendent would come to various houses in the town to discuss future issues and upcoming budget ideas in an effort to assist in support for

the School's interest. Fred volunteered to be in touch with Mark as a liaison for a potential meeting.

- The Teacher Rep was Hanna, hands down.
- Next meeting Karen will be here next month as a community member, brought in by "Recruiter-at-Large" Marie Kotlowski.

IV: School Improvement:

- Continued open discussion
- Discussions regarding the school website. Kristen mentioned future plans that one class is looking to advance their site with further enhancements, links, and class studies.
- Issues were discussed regarding the difficulty of reviewing certain areas of the school improvement plan with having such an 'unknown' variable as the upcoming budget to plan and prepare for.
- School Safety will be tabled to next month due to time restrictions - Parent Communication will be added next month in the event Lois is not able to be the guest speaker.