

**MHS PTO**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 20, 2008**

**Present:** J. Wood, P. Arntzen, H. Magliozzi, K. Kerr, M. McCarthy, A. Hill, L. Wesley, J. Hickey, P. Cotter, J. McGilvary, M. Young, M. Gately, T. Nadeau

**Guest:** L. Chesson

**Topics of Discussion:**

**New MHS Principal:**

- Laura Chesson, new MHS principal introduced herself and discussed her background, philosophy on education and teaching and her reason for applying for a position at MHS.
- Mrs. Chesson plans to be involved with the school and school activities as much as possible for the remainder of the school year even though her contract does not officially begin until July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.
- Mrs. Chesson has meetings scheduled with the teachers through the spring and will be holding parent focus groups as well.
- Mrs. Chesson has presented Dr. Masterson with an entry plan for the fall, which includes the above meetings as part of that plan.

**Action Item:** Included at the end of these meeting minutes is a list of questions Mrs. Chesson would like parents to think about and welcomes responses via email. Her email is [lchesson@maynard.k12.ma.us](mailto:lchesson@maynard.k12.ma.us).

**Follow-up from 02/13/08 Meeting Minutes:**

***Got Books Fundraiser:***

- Bins are not in place yet. Still waiting for the weather to improve, i.e. no more snow.

**Action Item:** M. McCarthy will talk with A. Dulong about assigning someone to notify the company when the bin is full. Once container is delivered, H. Magliozzi will send out a notice to the MHS email distribution list.

***Kids Nite Out:***

- The 1<sup>st</sup> Kids Nite Out was successful. There were 29 kids in attendance. The proceeds of approx. \$250 went to the MHS musical – Beauty & the Beast.

***8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents Night:***

- M. McCarthy was able to get on the agenda and spoke briefly about the MHS PTO.

**New Business:**

***Teacher's Appreciation Luncheon:***

- Teacher's appreciation luncheon is scheduled for 5/9/08.
- H. Magliozzi, T. Nadeau, K. Kerr & J. Wood will work on the luncheon.

**Action Item:** H. Magliozzi will contact Fowler & Green Meadow PTO's to discuss organizing food.

***Parent/Teacher Conferences:***

- Parent/Teacher Conferences were held on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008. A. Dulong introduced a new format where conference time was scheduled. Parents present at the meeting felt this was an improvement over the previous procedure for parent/teacher conferences. There were a few issues brought up including only being able to schedule time to see 2 teachers; difficult for working parents to meet with teachers during day so would be helpful to have more than one night of conferences so more teachers can be seen.

Action Item: M. McCarthy will forward feedback to A. Dulong

***Progress Reports:***

- Several parents voiced their concern that progress reports arrived home AFTER parent/teacher conferences. In some cases, parents would have scheduled a conference with a teacher had they known their child was not doing well. In other cases, parents met with teachers and the teachers never indicated that their child was receiving a progress report.
- Some parents felt that they should have received a call from the teacher to request a conference if their child was going to receive a progress report. Parents understood that the teachers were given two days prior to parents calling to contact parents they felt they needed to see.

**Action Item:** M. McCarthy will forward feedback to A. Dulong. This process should be revisited prior to next falls parent/teacher conferences.

***Kids Nite Out:***

- Another Kids Nite Out is scheduled for Friday, March 28 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- A notice was sent via Connect-Ed
- Proceeds to benefit the Senior Class
- All adults volunteering must be CORI'ed by the HS before they can help out
- The Parents Group has agreed that beginning next year, all of the proceeds to Kids Nite Out will be pooled and split evenly among all of the groups that participated over the course of the year.

***School Policies:***

- There are inconsistencies in several school committee policies regarding school use, custodial fees, the school budget process and admission fees to school events. The policies in question include 301 and 301.1, 331 and 331.

**Action Item:** M. McCarthy will invite a member of the school committee to a PTO meeting to review the above policies.

***Picture Contract:***

- The picture contract with Life Touch is due for renewal. The PTO would like to be at the table for the discussion of the renewal since it was this group that

brought them forward. However, PTO does not feel we need to be involved in the decision as to whether to renew the contract or seek other vendors.  
**Action Item:** M. McCarthy will follow up with A. Dulong and B. Sullivan.

***Meeting Schedule:***

- April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008
- May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008
- June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**Agenda Item for April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008:** Fundraising

Submitted by: Helen Magliozzi

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Parents: Please review the questions below and feel free to respond to Mrs. Laura Chesson via email at [lchesson@maynard.k12.ma.us](mailto:lchesson@maynard.k12.ma.us).

1. Tell me about your students, - names, grades, etc.
2. What do you think Maynard High School does particularly well?
3. How would you describe the quality of teaching at Maynard High School?
4. What do you think Maynard High School should focus on next year? In the next five years?
5. Describe the level of parent and community involvement in the school. Do you think there should be more, less or the same?
6. Describe the level of student involvement in the school? Do you think there should be more, less or the same?
7. If you were to change two things about Maynard High School what would they be?
8. What advice would you give me as the new principal of Maynard High School?
9. Is there anything I didn't ask you that you would like me to know about Maynard High School?