



Newington School Supporters

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MARCH MEETING NOTES

The March meeting was held on March 9, 2006.

Present: Helen Rist, Gail Klanchesser, Sharon Brown, Sue Carroll, Marile Downey, Deb McLean, Rhonda Pepper, Sara Frizzell

Principal's Report:

Lorie Garand will be teaching gym for all six grades and kindergarten next year. She will also teach health and fitness. She has been coming for the equivalent of a full day per week already, and she will continue during this school year as long as the funds are available. Funding for a full day is in next school year's budget. As part of the Physical Best program, she has finished her graduate level class. For the class, she did physical assessments of the students at N.P. S. The students did well on the tests. The school is working on the nutrition piece of the program. Because the school has fulfilled the requirements, \$4000.00 is coming from the Seacoast Foundation for Health. This will be used to buy a rolling salad bar to offer at lunch, initially a couple of times per week. It will also be used to purchase equipment and materials for different games, scarves for juggling, cups for stacking, and curriculum materials for health. The school will be eligible for more money during the upcoming school year, and will continue to be involved with the Seacoast Foundation for Health. (Families should start thinking about putting together a team or volunteering for the fall Run, Peddle, Paddle fundraiser.)

The REAP grant that Mrs. Rist often mentions is from a federal program. In the past, the school's focus for these funds has been technology. She has asked if the focus can be changed to fitness and nutrition. She hasn't yet heard back.

The Newington Wal-Mart has a new manager. He wants us to call him Bob, and he wants to have the store be more involved in helping the school.

Jump rope for heart is set for April 12th. Every child who participates will receive a jump rope. Mathathon will be in April.

The curriculum fair on March 30 will involve art, music, and physical education.

Spring pictures are on March 31. Some of the money that comes in from the photos will be used to buy production supplies for the yearbook. Money that comes from fall photos goes to the student activity fund.

Sara Frizzell asked if we could use a better photographer. She loved the school photos from the Seacoast Charter School in Stratham, which were done by Portrait Design from Amherst. Mrs. Rist said now would be a good time to start researching photographers for the fall.

The date isn't set for graduation until after April vacation. Unless we have two or three more snow days, it will be sometime the week of June 12.

Treasurer's Report:

Savings balance = \$3562.00

Checking balance = \$10,502.00. This doesn't include the \$570.00 from the Little Caesar's fundraiser.

School Spirit Week:

Spirit Week is April 3 to April 7. The dance on Friday, April 7 will have a Hawaiian theme. We will be accepting canned fruit donations to pass along to a local charity. If anybody can hula, please let us know!

Teacher Appreciation Week:

Rather than food or snacks every day Helen suggested perhaps breakfast on Monday and lunch another day. Sue suggested giving the (shhh) Newington Public School shirts on Friday so we'll cater lunch on Wednesday. Other item Sue suggested was a bowl in the teachers' room with a 'theme' for each day that has a thank-you type slogan that ties in with a type of candy, i.e. hugs and kisses to our teachers. We can discuss in April if we want to set up a schedule for recess duty and finalize it more then. Teacher Appreciation Week is in May. The children will probably work on an art project at the library or with Mrs. Rist to help thank the teachers.

Fundraising for Next Year:

Since it was down to only a few of us we deferred to next month. Boston Coffee Cake is a definite for the fall and we discussed & agreed to try another Christmas ornament. We just need to pick a building.

Artist in Residence:

Ms. Garand is working on having a jump rope team come to the school. She will teach cup stacking.

Other:

PLEASE, EVERYBODY, START SENDING IN YOUR PHOTOS OF SCHOOL EVENTS AND SPORTS FOR THE 2006 YEARBOOK! Photos can be labeled with your name and the event (and subjects' names if you know them!) and dropped off at school. They can also be emailed Gail at Klanchesser@verizon.net.

**NEXT NEWINGTON SCHOOL SUPPORTERS MEETING IS
THURSDAY, APRIL 6, AT 8:30AM!**

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!