
Bigelow Middle School PTO

42 Vernon St., Newton, MA 02458



www.bigelowpto.org

PTO Board Meeting

December 10, 2020, 12:30pm

Virtual via Zoom

Attendance: Todd Harrison, Karen Markson, Vicki Spetter, Joana Canedo and Linda Gillespie

Agenda

Mr. Harrison's requests:

- \$1500 for the 1 School 1 Book Committee's work on "New Kid." They put together a terrific curriculum for our advisory program and organized a memorable visit from the author, Jerry Craft.

Todd: "The \$1500 request is for the 6 teachers (\$250 each) who worked last summer on putting together the advisory curriculum for "New Kid." It is separate from Jerry Craft's speaking fee."

Budget:

From the CASC line: \$1500 to pay the author

From the One School One Book: \$1500 to pay the teachers who worked on the project

Guest Speakers for 8th grade

- 2 Motivational speakers - allocate to social-emotional line
 - 1) [Randy Pierce](#) - 10/22 - \$200
 - 2) Sean Ellis - \$200
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- \$400 honorarium for two guest speakers for the 8th grade. Kim LeQuire is organizing a presentation from Sean Ellis (now featured in a Netflix movie) and hosted a blind mountaineer in October. We'd like to give them a \$200 stipend each for speaking to each cluster. Can this come from the money earmarked for CASC assemblies?

*I haven't seen a request for Sean Ellis but it certainly sounds like one we would absolutely support! I will check with Joana to see if she has heard anything from Kim.

Karen: "We already told Kim we were approving the stipend for Randy Pierce - I think that was already paid to him, but happy to check."

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- \$1350 additional funds for the principal's discretionary account. A number of staff, in addition to the usual mentors for first year teachers, helped me organize professional development on anti-racism this past summer, and I would like to give them a token appreciation for their work.

*We'll speak to Linda about getting funds to you for the Discretionary Fund.

11 teachers - \$47/hour

\$1435 - Anti-racism

\$910 -

Todd will send a spreadsheet specifying how to pay the teachers.

Reimbursement from 2019 7th Grade Rafting

- NPS business office was contacted to give the money to the PTO
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Holiday Luncheon for Bigelow Office Staff -

Coordinate with Kersten? Share with her the lunch choices with everyone and Karen can order, get delivered, etc.

Mr. Harrison, Mr. Mogensen, Mrs. Rao

Heather MacDonald, Linda Anderson, and Kersten Raso.

Nurse Schy

Custodians=Tim Curry, Jessica Cedarchuk, and possibly Al Zellmann.

Additionally: Jen Murphy has ordered two trays of very delicious cookies which I will drop off for the staff to enjoy on the day of this luncheon!

Food will be delivered

Karen: "Kersten is happy to coordinate the luncheon next Monday or Tuesday--either day works. The cookies sound yummy! The office group consists of: Nurse Sue Schy, Executive Assistants Heather MacDonald, Linda Anderson, and Kersten Raso, the assistant principals Courtney Rau-Rogers and Lucas Mogensen, and the custodians Tim Curry, Al Zellmann, and Steve Rogers."



**HOLIDAY LUNCHEON
FOR THE BIGELOW MIDDLE SCHOOL STAFF**

Wednesday, December 16, 2020

 **INSALATA** 

Caesar
Fresh romaine lettuce topped with croutons and pecorino romano cheese, tossed with our delicious homemade Caesar dressing

House
Crisp mixed greens topped with cherry tomatoes, cucumbers, olives and red onions, with house dressing

 **ENTREES** 

Chicken Napolitano
Chicken & spinach prepared in a pink rosé sauce – a unique blend of our signature marinara & alfredo sauce – tossed with penne pasta & pecorino romano cheese

Fettuccine Bolognese
Braised ground beef, veal & pork simmered with vegetables in a rich red wine tomato sauce tossed with fresh fettuccine

Six Cheese Tortellini
Tortellini filled with a blend of ricotta, pecorino romano, asiago, parmesan, provolone, and mozzarella cheese covered in Fiorella's signature marinara sauce

 **DOLCI** 

Cookies by Elise, Donated by Chris and Jen Murphy



With much appreciation from The Bigelow PTO



Mr. Harrison - Cookies for the whole staff

"Good Morning-

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I was just speaking with Todd and he wanted to do a little treat for the staff before they leave for winter break. We were thinking of buying cookies for them. I was wondering if you could put us in touch with the parent that is doing the cookies for your fundraiser?

Thank you so much.

Take care-

Kersten"

Karen will be in touch with Kersten

● **Chrome books for 8th grade?**

NPS is still trying to redistribute laptops

There are enough for the kids in need who do not have their personal

If there are any 8th graders without a working laptop, please contact the office and the school will provide a loaner while the permanent ones are not there yet

● **Ice skating rink**

From Mary Fitzgerald:

"I spoke with Todd and Parks and Rec about the possibility of setting up a rink this winter. There are a lot of hoops to jump through, so not sure if we can pull it off but I've filled out an application and have spoken with Carol Stapleton who runs those programs for the city.

I think the easiest way to do it is to go through a premade rink company and purchase a "snap together rink". It's not cheap but if we can get some donations we would be able to use the rink year after year... Here's their [website](#), I think the large rink (30' x 60' @ around \$3500) could work for us this year, we can always add an extension pack next year if we want to go bigger, since hopefully we'll have more kids in school by then!! They are having a sale on Monday - 10% plus free shipping - but I bet we can get that rate even if we order later. The rink comes to us from Connecticut and takes between 5-10 days once ordered, so it's crunch time if this is going to work.

Maintenance would require watering the rink once in a while to keep the ice smooth and shoveling which is something staff, community and students might be willing to help with. We could run a hose from the water spigot at the preschool, so placing it on the far side of the field seems to make the most sense, plus we don't want it to be in the way of where we go for fire drills, etc... Also don't want it situated right in front of the homes near the tennis courts.

What do you think? Want to run it by PTO and see if others might be interested? The rink would be available to the public when we aren't using it at school. We'd also have to figure out skates and helmets, but having so few students at school right now is a great way to test all this out..."

To consider:

- Liability
- Safety
- Quality of the ice
- Number of days it can be used
- Skates for the kids
- Investment

Alternatives:

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Warrior ice Rink - take the kids there for PE

Lars Anderson Skate rink

Snow shoes for going outside in the snow

Bigelow gear/yearbook [update](#)

We will distribute this week on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday at 11:30

Connecting with 8th graders from last year to get their yearbooks

Student council will help with the distribution

scheduling a PTO meeting with Superintendent Fleishman and SC members. Morning or Evening?

Evening meeting

Tentative date: 01/12/21

Annual appeal update

- \$ 4400 last week
- \$ 1600 this week

Sunday's newsletter: we are doing, please keep donating

January 29, 2021 - Trivia Night

Schedule next PTO meetings with Mr. Harrison

Fridays at 12:30pm