

Dover PTO Annual Meeting June 11th, 2010

A general meeting of the Dover PTO was held in the Chickering Elementary School cafeteria, starting at 9:00 A.M. on Friday, June 11th, 2010. Ms. Betsy Ryan, PTO President, presided and Ms. Pam LoDato, Secretary, recorded the minutes. There were approximately 30 people in attendance. Ms. Ryan called the meeting to order and welcomed all the attendees.

Approval of the Minutes

The first order of business was approval of the minutes from the last general PTO meeting on April 27th, 2010. Ms. LoDato had distributed the minutes. Ms. Ryan asked if there were any changes to the minutes. Given that there were no comments, Ms. Ryan asked for a motion for the minutes to be accepted.

VOTE:

To approve the minutes from the April 27th, 2010 general meeting of the Dover PTO.

The motion was proposed, seconded and passed unanimously.

Send-off for Mr. Kirk Downing

Ms. Ryan thanked Mr. Downing for his three years of service to the students and community of Chickering School as principal. She saluted the many important changes to the curriculum that were made in his tenure. Ms. Dana White spoke of Mr. Downing's commitment to moving the school forward. Changes implemented at the school during Mr. Downing's tenure included: Every Day Math, Differentiated Instruction, Reading and Writing Workshops, Professional Learning Community, the new mission statement, step-up day and smart boards in the classrooms.

As a token of the PTO's appreciation, Ms. Ryan presented Mr. Downing with an antique map of Dover. Mr. Downing thanked the PTO for their support throughout his time at the school. He has many fond memories as principal and is very proud of the accomplishments of the students and staff. Mr. Downing said that he is working closely with the incoming principal, Dr. Terry Nugent, and will continue to be available for any questions when she starts the job in July.

President's Update

Thanks to the generosity of parent fundraising this year, the PTO and Chickering staff have reviewed the different needs of the school. The decision was made to buy new choral risers for \$6,900. The new Wenger risers will replace 40 year old equipment that has some safety issues. The risers will be used by the chorus and bands as well as for

school assemblies. They will arrive by September. Additional capital gifts from the PTO will await discussion with the new principal.

In September, the school will have a Boston-based artist who specializes in mosaic murals to be an artist in residence. Joshua Winer will create a piece in the Chickering lobby. This project was developed by the teachers at Chickering and was inspired by the life and values of Michelle Worthy. All of the students will participate through the art classes. Mr. Downing announced the teacher project at the auction in April, where it had strong parent support. Additional fundraising is underway. The artist has a website: Joshuawiner.com for those who would like to see some of his projects.

Election of PTO Officers for 2010-2011

Ms. Michele Mandel, chair of the nominations committee, thanked her committee for their hard work. Names were submitted and solicited by the committee in many different ways. The committee contacted all of the nominees below to confirm their interest in the positions. In addition to the volunteers on the Executive Board, there are a large number of other important positions that the committee found volunteers for the next school year.

Ms. Mandel presented the new Dover PTO Executive Board (seen below) and made a motion to approve the 2010-2011 single slate.

Co-Presidents	Anne Nolen & Meg Field
Vice Presidents	Missy Gramer and Gina Doyle
Treasurer	Barbara Dawley
Secretary	Pam LoDato
Communications Chair	Jody Shue
Volunteer Services Chair	Siobhan Doherty
Curriculum Enrichment Chair	Mary Yanke
Curriculum Enrichment Vice Chair	Beth Webb
Community Outreach Chair	Kristin Brophy
Fundraising Chair	Suzanne Nystrom
Fundraising Vice Chair	Amy Caffrey
Advisor	Betsy Ryan (President 2009-10)

VOTE:

To approve the proposed slate of the Nominations Committee for the 2010-2011 Dover PTO Executive Board.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, this request was unanimously approved. Ms. Mandel welcomed the new members of the Executive Board of the PTO. Their terms begin after the completion of this meeting.

Current Financial Report and Budget Approval for 2010-11 Year

Ms. Jennifer Friesen, Treasurer, began by distributing the 2009/10 budget and estimated actual financials to June 30, 2010, along with the proposed PTO budget for 2010/11. (The "estimated actual financials to June 30, 2010" are the actual revenues and expenses to June 10th plus the estimated transactions from June 10 - 30, 2010.)

As was reported in April, the PTO had a strong fundraising year due to an outstanding spring auction plus smaller fundraising activities. Total inflows were \$101,600, which was well above plan of \$75,700. The PTO funded student enrichment programs for \$26,800 over the year and gave \$23,600 in direct classroom support to the teachers. The PTO spent \$10,300 in programs for the Chickering community and teacher appreciation events and \$2,075 for administrative expenses. These expenses were in line with the money spent in the prior year but below the budget by about \$15,000. The PTO's careful stewardship of its funds has allowed the purchase of the Choral Risers for \$6,900. Additional money has been set aside for capital gifts in the fall.

The money raised this year will cover all of the planned student programming, direct classroom support and capital gifts for 2010-11. The 2010-11 budget has curriculum enrichment programs at a total cost of \$33,800, direct classroom and teacher support of \$36,300 and funds for community events for \$11,145. The PTO will continue to fundraise, as has been our practice, for the next fiscal year through a check writing campaign and fashion show in the fall and smaller fundraising activities throughout the year. The PTO hopes to raise around \$62,000 next year. This, along with the reserve from this year's auction, will meet the following school year's expenses.

Ms. Friesen put forward the resolution below to approve the PTO budget for the next fiscal year as follows:

VOTE:

To ratify the PTO Budget for 2010 – 2011 that was presented at the Dover PTO General Meeting by Ms. Friesen, Treasurer.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, this request was unanimously approved.

Ms. Ryan again thanked the members of the PTO executive board and all of the other volunteers for their work this year. Ms. Ryan welcomed her hard working vice-presidents, Meg Field and Anne Nolen, as the first co-PTO presidents. Special thanks also went to Betsy Ryan for a great job all year, as she steps down from leading the PTO. The meeting was adjourned.