

**10/3/2018**  
**APC Meeting Notes**

Location: Hosted by Suzy Fortgang and David Nehring at Valley View Farm, Haydenville

Present: Diane Bigelow P21, 18, 16, Phoebe Walker, P21 and 17, Karen Ferrandino P23, Paul Catanzaro, P21, Amy and Jamie Sweeting P20, Suzy Fortgang, P23, Martha Tirk, Nora Bates Zale, Mo Turner, P22, Ryan Schiff P23, Paul Rudolph, P23 and 24, Kathie Osborne P18 and 20, Sheryl Waxler P19  
Regrets: Dana Stiepoek

Parents at the meeting represented: 7th grade -- 1, 8th grade -- 4, 9th grade -- 1, 10th grade -- 3, 11th grade -- 2, 12th grade -- 1

**Update from Head of School:**

Nora shared the following updates:

- Boarding program -- hopes to open Fall 2019, with home in Shelburne Falls being considered. Small group of lenders. Working online to get 12 total students, 9-12 grade, mix of international and domestic boarders. Staffing: House Parent, Respite Parent, Residential Life Director. Pax will only bring students who stay with families, so that will continue.
  - Discussion of flex options? Five day boarding is an option.
  - Are there models for this kind of ancillary boarding? Yes
- Capital Campaign -- will support boarding and upgrades to the main campus facilities
- 6th grade -- there are two and they are just doing 7th grade, but programs will fork next year.
- Senior Projects are underway under supervision of Dr. Fagan. New this year: each Senior will have an outside mentor. List of Senior projects is available for members of the community to review if they are interested in helping in this manner.
- Grinnell Sessions are mini-courses to be held in January right after break. They welcome parents to teach them -- anything from 1-3 days. Contact Mr. Schatz.
- Seeking intro to Spanish teacher for spring to 6th and 7th. Three blocks a week (55 mins each), and Ultimate Frisbee coach

**Update from Admissions/Development:** Open Houses upcoming. Please share the links in the bulletin. We are especially seeking more sixth graders next year! Families who want to host a gathering at their home, Martha is happy to come!

**Auction** -- Phoebe gave an overview and invited people to donate, attend, volunteer!

**Pie Sale** -- Diane described the event. All kinds of pies are welcome! Pie Bee tomorrow. New Elmer's and Inn at Norton Hill owners Florencia and Andreas have welcomed us to set up in our usual spot.

**Go over tasks that need to be done --**

- Coffee Purchaser for Spring needed. No volunteers at the meeting.
- Financial Subcommittee -- Karen Ferrandino volunteered. Diane will be checking in with Janet Mullen and Rebekah Boyd who did it last year to see if they want to continue

**Other Issues**

- Bulletin -- still only 80% open rate. Parents in the know suggest feature that re-sends the newsletter after three days if unopened (Tuesday AM a good time). Discussion of best times. Lunch will be listed in the Bulletin consistently from now on. Parent Request: Bring back the calendar link!

- Library -- no librarian right now. The position was cut for budget reasons. There is not money for a new position. Could someone (a retired librarian?) volunteer for this project? Dana Stiepock has offered to help, and has been connected to Ellen MacLeish Zale.

Do we have memberships to any good research database? Are kids taught media literacy and research skills? And can kids order books this way? Separate question than what to do with the "reading room."

General sadness that the library is not more supported. Members interested in being part of the re-envisioning of that space and its functions as both a quiet place and a place to research. Faculty too busy, but those in attendance offered to help!

- Councils: maybe time to stop offering parents to help with Councils.
- International students -- Reach out and invite them to join your family! Re-send the list of things to do with students.
- Work Bee Items. Fall work bee anyone? Phoebe wants Mr. White more involved for the spring work bee. Martha will send us ideas for things to do -- maybe on October 13th?

#### **Spending Requests -- \$2300 in account now**

- Mascot -- PURCHASED.
- **Score Board -- has been OK'd, not bought yet. We could buy this.**
- Soccer goals --not at this time
- **Starter for Golf Cart -- Mr. White would like one of these. We need**
- **Guitar and Keyboard Amps (4 @ \$120 each). Jamie suggested donations of guitar and amps**
- **Guitars also needed. (2 guitars)**
- **Contact Sheet Frames (4 @ \$35 each)**

Approved up to \$900 for the bold things above.

Could parents see a wish list from teachers and staff? Nora taking request back.

Item for Next Meeting (tentatively Tuesday, December 4 or Wednesday December 5, place TBD):

Sheryl -- Studio Blocks

Concert Reception coordinator, if not filled prior