**PCO Meeting Minutes**
**September 8th**
**7:00 – 9:10**

Board members in Attendance: Karen Peterson, Kelly Meredith, Jean Clark, Michelle Jackson, Kristie O'Rourke, Heidi Winiker

- Welcome and Introductions
  - The board officially announced that Sue McDermott resigned from the board.

- Update from Administration
  - Dr. O' Malley spoke for the administration. He informed us we now have 417 students. This is our largest school population.
  - There will be a renewed focus this year on the character education pillar.
  - We have a new Math program called Think Math.
  - Every teacher this year will have a website.
  - Things to come:
    - School will be visited in order to have 5 year charter renewed. It will be a 3-4 day visit. The school is applying 1 year early for renewal.
    - This year the school is looking to change the English curriculum.
  - The school requested money from the PCO for partially fund buses for a field trip for 6-8 graders to the DCU Center in Worcester for a "Proud To Be An American" show. The bus is $1,600 and the school is looking for anywhere from $1 - $800.
    - Kristie O'Rourke presented a motion that the PCO fund $300 towards the bus.
    - Jean Clark seconded the motion.
    - There was 1 person opposed so the motion passed.
  - Dr. O'Malley discussed Alert Now – the school's new communications system.

- Budget Review
  - Michelle Jackson reviewed the budget.

- PTO Manager Update
  - Michelle Jackson gave a brief overview of PTO Manager

- Call for Volunteers
  - The PCO Board indicated that they need volunteers to help chair Family to Family, Yearbook and Grant Writing. Karen Peterson said she would co-chair Family Nights with Sandy Frongillo.

- Member-At-Large Position
    - Two people (Karen Dexter and Kerry Sweeney-Harris) indicated interest in the open Member-At-Large position.
    - Kerry asked the current Members-At-Large to go over their experience.
    - Karen and Kerry both spoke about why they were interested in the position.
    - The board decided to table to the vote to see if there was a way to include both candidates on our board.

- Committee Reports
    - Auction – The PCO is having an auction this year in March and Jen and Lou Moccia were asked to co-chair based on their prior experience
    - Book Fair – The Fall Book Fair will be 11/13 and 11/14 at Barnes and Noble in Bellingham. There will be a concert and an art show. There was a discussion on whether or not to use B&N in the spring.
    - Family Nights – The first one will be 9/19. It will be an ice cream social. There will be a food pantry donation at the door. Sandy is looking for someone to help run the nights and to take over an event.
    - Restaurant Nights – Anne Gilberti mentioned Applebees does a restaurant night.
    - BoxTops – Deb Schwab has taken this on with the 6th graders.

- Q&A
    - An online shopping website was brought up as an idea for a fundraiser. It will be looked into.