

***Si usted quiere acceso a las minutas de esta reunión en español comuníquese con la junta ejecutiva del PTO.***

As a parent of a child at Barbieri you are a member of the Barbieri PTO.

All parents are welcome to meetings. Childcare is provided. Translation is provided.

Attendance: approximately 30 parents including PTO board, Principal Dr. McGilvary-Rivet, guest speaker 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher Mrs. Burns, Ms. Rosario Alvarez-O'Neil – Director of Early Childhood Education

### **Some (not necessarily all) Important Dates between Now & Next Meeting**

Indoor Yard Sale	Sat., April 9, 9AM-2PM
Scholastic Book Fair	April 11-14 (during school; at night during Spelling Bee on April 14)
Papa Gino's Night	Thursday, April 14
Townwide PTO Meeting	Mon., April 11 @ Dunning
Barbieri School Council Meeting	Wed. April 13, 8:15 AM
Elementary Early Release	Thurs., April 14; Thurs., April 28
No School	April 18-22
Spelling Bee	April 14
Race to Nowhere screening	Mon., April 25, 7-9 @ FHS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• tickets online: \$10 adult/\$5 stud. (\$12/\$6 at door)</li> <li>• <a href="http://rtnframinghamhs.eventbrite.com/">http://rtnframinghamhs.eventbrite.com/</a></li> </ul>
Framingham Annual Town Meeting	Tues., April 26
Authors' Day	Friday, April 29
Earth Day Festival	Sat., April 30, 11-3, Framingham Centre Common
Poetry Night at Barnes & Noble	tentatively set for May 3
Barbieri Spring Fundraiser	Sat. May 7, 1-4 PM

### **Thank You's for Volunteering since Our Last Meeting**

- Beth Goldfarb, Lana Lessem, Jenny Schulman, Gretchen DeMore, Kim Mills, and Alana Lipkin for helping Literacy Coordinator Margaret Fawley with RIF (Reading is Fundamental) distribution.
- Ina Perez Alford for getting Papa Gino's fliers out every month.
- Livia Cordova and Corey Spaulding for work preparing the Spelling Bee.
- Cristina Sandza-Donovan, Sarah Guernsey, Dr. McGilvary-Rivet, parents, teachers: planning coordinating, and running the Multicultural Night Event.
- Alana Lipkin for helping with the Scholastic Book Fair, and to Nancy Swallow, Laura Leaver, and Kim High for agreeing to help with this event when Alana moves on.
- Melanie Palma for help with Lego Club.
- Teresa Burke for continued help with translation at PTO meetings.
- Chess Club volunteers.

There was a motion to audio-tape the meeting. There was a second on the motion. The motion passed.

### **Volunteer Needs**

- Activewear Volunteer Coordinator – The active wear volunteer is in charge of maintaining stock of Barbieri shirts and sweatshirts and coordinating volunteers to sell the activewear at Barbieri events
- Compost Help – come supervise/help during 2<sup>nd</sup> grade or 3<sup>rd</sup> grade lunch. Sign up sheet at the visitor sign in table by the school office.
- Barbieri Gardeners – Help with the upkeep of our newly developed gardens behind Barbieri. Contact Mrs. Shander Reynolds for more information on this new Barbieri project and volunteer needs.  
[kshanderreynolds@framingham.k12.ma.us](mailto:kshanderreynolds@framingham.k12.ma.us)

- Literacy Room Support Coordinator – A volunteer is needed to help organize and maintain organization of the books of the literacy room. Contact Mrs. Fawley – Literacy Specialist [mfawley@framingham.k12.ma.us](mailto:mfawley@framingham.k12.ma.us)
- Townwide PTO representative for Barbieri - If you are interested in volunteering for Townwide PTO representative please contact Chris Pearce ([chrispearce@hotmail.com](mailto:chrispearce@hotmail.com)), Barbieri PTO President.

The following information is directly from the Townwide PTO information through the Framingham School District website <http://www.framingham.k12.ma.us/twpto.cfm>

## **FRAMINGHAM TOWNWIDE PTO**

Framingham TWPTO is the umbrella parent-teacher organization for all the Framingham Schools. Comprised of representatives from each school's PTO, Townwide meets monthly and focuses on issues of concern to the school system globally as well as on issues specific to particular schools. By conducting forums on a variety of topics and inviting speakers on a regular basis, Townwide also serves to educate and inform both its members and the community at large.

The purpose of the Framingham TWPTO is:

- \* To act as an advocate for children and public education
- \* To work for the common goals which benefit the Framingham public schools and children
- \* To foster communication and coordination among the PTOs and the school administration
- \* To promote and assist the Framingham PTOs
- \* To exchange ideas and act as resource group

Townwide PTO membership is made up of 1-3 representatives from each public school. Townwide PTO reps serve as the liason between their school and the TWPTO by attending monthly meetings. Each member school has 1 vote.

**TWPTO promotes TEAM Framingham (Together Everyone Achieves More).**

### **Spelling Bee Budget**

Corey Spaulding – volunteer for the Spelling Bee, previously held the position of Vice President of PTO.

#### **Budget Change**

- Ms. Spaulding questioned the PTO Board about the change of the Spelling Bee Budget from \$200.00 to \$100.00.
- Chris Pearce, PTO President, handed over the meeting to Cristina Sandza-Donovan, PTO Vice President, in order to directly answer and discuss the question with Corey Spaulding.
  - Previous to the meeting, Mr. Pearce looked at the 2009-2010 draft budget, which was drawn up before his term as president of PTO. The 2008-09 budget figure, listed under the "revised" column, lists the Spelling Bee budget as \$200.00. The amount listed under the "spent" column was \$188.11. This draft budget records a proposed change to the Spelling Bee budget, bringing it down to \$100. The information on the proposed change is in the Year End 08-09 Treasurer's Report. This information was also on the 2009-10 draft budget that was distributed at a meeting Corey was present at before Chris' term as PTO President officially began.
  - At the June 2010 PTO meeting, there was a lengthy and open discussion of the budget. One of the items addressed at that PTO meeting was the Spelling Bee. Corey Spaulding did not attend the April, May, or June 2010 PTO meetings.

- At the March 2011 meeting, Livia Cordova, volunteer for the Spelling Bee, requested an increase in the Spelling Bee budget from \$100.00 to \$160.00 and that request was discussed, voted, on and passed.
- Cristina Sandza-Donovan handed the meeting back to Chris Pearce.
- There was a motion to increase the Spelling Bee Budget from \$160.00 to \$200.00.
  - Discussion of the increase of budget occurred.
  - Livia Cordova said it is not necessary to increase the budget any further this year. After the increase from \$100.00 to \$160.00, Ms. Cordova said the Spelling Bee is funded appropriately.
- There was not a second on the motion to increase the budget from \$160.00 to \$200.00.
- The motion failed.
- There will be no increase of the Spelling Bee Budget this year. Chris Pearce welcomed Corey Spaulding to attend the May and June meetings where the entire PTO budget for next year will be discussed.

#### Corey Spaulding's Request of Re-imbusement for Copies and Ink Cartridges

- Corey Spaulding makes it known that she has used a lot of her own money in order to make the Spelling Bee a success. She has paid for copies and ink cartridges from Staples. Corey insists on being re-imbursed for the expenses she has incurred in running the Spelling Bee.
- The PTO does not re-imburse volunteers for unauthorized purchases/claims.
- Beth Goldfarb, Barbieri parent, responds to Corey's monetary concerns. Mrs. Goldfarb notes that all persons on committees are unpaid volunteers. Some volunteer positions entail use of one's own materials, time, and monies. For example, parent volunteers provide the snacks for each PTO meeting. The parent volunteer buys the snacks and is not re-imbursed.
- Corey disagrees with Beth. She insists on being re-imbursed and re-iterates the ink cartridge and copy expense. Corey requests \$45.00. Beth offered Corey \$45.00 of Beth's own money to cover her expenses for the Spelling Bee copies and ink cartridges in the hopes that Corey would stop making her requests to the PTO Board. Corey said to make it \$50.00. Beth declined. Mrs. Goldfarb took two twenties and a ten out of her purse. Beth did not have the exact \$45.00 amount in cash, because she did not have any change. Mrs. Goldfarb handed the two twenties and a ten to Ms. Spaulding. Corey took the money and said thank you to Beth.

#### **Fifth Grade – Health Curriculum, Human Development/Puberty Unit**

The fifth graders finish their unit on human development/puberty late spring.

- Joselynne Ramos, a fifth grade parent, requested funds to pay for 'puberty packets'. The packets will include items such as deodorant and maxi pads.
- Mrs. Ramos did not have an amount needed to purchase the packets. She will research and present her request with an amount at the next PTO meeting.
- There was a motion to vote on the funding at the next meeting when the amount of money needed is known. There was a second on the motion. The motion passed.

#### **Literacy Centers as Part of a Balanced Literacy Program Presentation by Ms. Burns – Barbieri 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher**

##### **Hand – outs for the presentation**

- Excerpt from *Guided Reading: Good First Teaching for All Children*
- Chapter Five Managing the Classroom, Irene C. Fountas, Gay Su Pinnell, 1996
- Reference to the article *Using centers to engage children during guided reading time: Intensifying learning experiences away from the teacher*, Michael P. Ford, Michael F. Optiz, *The Reading Teacher*, Vol. 55, No. 8 May 2002



## **Principal Report**

- Cafeteria Composting Program [http://www.framingham.k12.ma.us/barbieri\\_composting.cfm](http://www.framingham.k12.ma.us/barbieri_composting.cfm)
- Fourth and fifth graders compost captains are helping the second and third graders learn which foods should and should not go into the compost bins. The older students have developed a great appreciation for composting and a great sense of pride in teaching the younger grades.
- Next year the kindergarten and first graders will join the Cafeteria Composting Program.
- Volunteer needs for compost program – During 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade lunches, parent volunteers are needed to guide the compost captains. Interested? There is a sign up sheet at the visitor sign in area in school by the front office.

## **Barbieri's Raised Bed Gardens**

Mrs. Shander Rivers –fourth grade teacher – is starting raised bed gardens this year where the run-down tennis courts are behind Barbieri.

- The longterm goal of the garden project is to use the garden as a teaching tool and use the vegetables in the Barbieri Cafeteria. Students will learn about the use of the food they throw into the compost bins as food for the plants grown in the garden.
- Building and Grounds will be converting the tennis area to raised bed gardens for the school to use as a vegetable garden.
- Volunteers are needed now for set up of the garden and for the entire summer to help maintain the garden. Parents and children are welcome as volunteers. Please volunteer for watering, weeding, harvesting, and other garden needs. Volunteer once or set-up a scheduled time. Contact Mrs. Shander Rivers [kshanderreynolds@framingham.k12.ma.us](mailto:kshanderreynolds@framingham.k12.ma.us) for more information.

## **Barbieri School Pledge**

Barbieri has developed a school pledge based on the CARE (Classroom, Academics, Respect, Effort) values. The pledge was created as part of the school wide CARE program to re-inforce positive behavior, positive feelings about oneself, and pride in the Barbieri community.

- The children are learning the pledge in English and Spanish.
- 5<sup>th</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> graders are saying the pledges over the loudspeakers each day.
- The goal is to have all the students learn the pledge
- The CARE program extends to all aspects of school: bus, in line, classroom, cafeteria, etc.

## **Wellness Plan**

- Part of the Wellness Plan is to encourage exercise through walking.
- Nurse Mary coordinates with Massrides to train the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders how to walk safely.

## **Horace Mann Update**

New Development in the Horace Mann Charter Process

- There may be a possibility that we may not go forward with the Horace Mann Charter.
- Horace Mann requires the school to have a true lottery. The current way we enroll students is a lottery system that is not in line with the Horace Mann true lottery system.
- The Horace Mann lottery would have one lottery pool of all the children interested in enrolling in Barbieri. The current Barbieri lottery divides all the children interested in enrolling in Barbieri into two pools: children whose families identify themselves as more comfortable in Spanish and children whose families identify themselves as more comfortable in English.
- Barbieri splits its pools of students in order to have a learning environment with approximately equal amounts of children comfortable in Spanish and children comfortable in English. The two groups of students enable Barbieri to maintain its bi-lingual education program effectively.
- Horace Mann information will not be sent out to parents at this time, because of the new information that has arisen about the Horace Mann lottery system.

## **Innovation School Charter**

Innovation School Charter is different than Horace Mann. The Innovation Charter may be an option for Barbieri. More research on Innovation Schools is currently occurring. At the same time, more research is occurring on the Horace Mann process.

- Innovation Charter may give us the autonomy that we desire and enable us to maintain our lottery system. As a bilingual school in a district with no other schools like us, a charter would be a positive because we have the possibility that we can test differently, teach differently, etc.

The district continues to be supportive of Barbieri as a charter. We will be moving forward with the process of becoming a charter

## **PTO Board Announcements**

Chris Pearce – PTO Board President

- Earth Day – On Earth Day there will be an event on the Square. Would the Compost Captains like to participate?

Nora Langan - Treasurer's Report

- There were \$949.00 in ticket sales for *HONK!*
- Kango Gift \$16.20.
- School Link Services – The money under School Link Services is used for PTO babysitting and taxis for parents. Other request throughout the year may utilize some of the School Link Services with voting approval.
- Ms. Corey Spaulding asked about the PTO's filing with the Attorney General.
  - Barbieri PTO Board is in contact with the Attorney General through the Framingham Townwide PTO. The filing with the Attorney General is a Townwide PTO project.

## **Parent Announcements – Bilingual PAC, Playground Spring Cleaning, Staff Appreciation Lunch, Music and Poetry Night, Jump Rope for Heart, Lego Club**

### **Bilingual PAC – Parent Advisory Council**

Viviana Vilches and Iris De Leon are Barbieri parents that are a part of the Bilingual PAC.

Bilingual PAC is a Framingham District wide group that supports the needs of families who are not native English speakers with children in the bilingual education programs throughout Framingham.

- The group meets with parents and listens to each other's concerns. The concerns are communicated to school administrators.
- Bilingual PAC has a chair on the school committee and will be represented at the Townwide PTO President's meeting. Thank you to our PTO President, Chris Pearce, for working to have Bilingual PAC be a part of the Townwide PTO President's meetings.
- A pamphlet on Bilingual PAC will be sent out this Spring.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Viviana Vilches [manuel.castrillo@rcn.com](mailto:manuel.castrillo@rcn.com)

### **Playground Spring Cleaning**

Jim Hansen – Barbieri parent, playground coordinator

- Nurse Mary has requested mulch to improve the safety of the playground.
- Mulch that is placed at a school playground has to be a certain quality for schools, therefore the school mulch is more expensive than typical mulch.
- Karen Kornbau, Barbieri parent, – can more money be spent on mulch? Next meeting we will discuss the possibility of increasing the budget to cover the playground properly with 'school grade' mulch. The cost would be about \$3,800.00.
- Ideas about the mulch safety concern
  - Technically, the Barbieri playground is a Park & Recreation playground – can we call someone to cover the mulch cost or increase the mulch allotted to Barbieri?
  - Possibly put a call out for money towards the playground mulch.

- Matt Torres (Buildings & Grounds) was here...we could ask for his help.
- Rubber mats are an alternative that are low maintenance, but extremely expensive. The rubber mats last about twenty-five years.
- How about mats just for the monkey bars? Blocks has rubber mats. Ms. Alvarez-O'Neil – Director of Early Childhood Education has information about rubber mats.

### **Staff Appreciation Lunch May 4, Wednesday**

The staff appreciation lunch is completely supported by individual parents. There are no funds from PTO for the luncheon, so please donate your time, food, and/or money for this annual event.

- Volunteers are needed for set-up, serving lunch, and clean-up.
- Volunteers are needed to make food or buy food and bring it in on Staff Appreciation day.
- A note will be sent out in the Friday Folders.
- Contact Lori Greene [lori\\_greene@irco.com](mailto:lori_greene@irco.com) with any questions or to volunteer.

### **Barnes & Noble Bookfair Poetry and Music Night May 3, Tuesday 6:30**

- Annual poetry and music night at Barnes & Nobles. Have your child read a poem she/he has written or a favorite poem.
- Anne DeMallie is the coordinator [ademallie@e-front.com](mailto:ademallie@e-front.com)

### **Jump Rope for Heart**

A jump-a-thon to raise money and awareness about taking care of our hearts

- Nurse Mary helps coordinate this annual event.
- This years jump-a-thon was a great success and a lot of fun with about 200 people attending.

### **Lego Club**

- Our Lego Club went to Dunning for a townwide Lego event. We were well represented by our Lego Club participants and our parent volunteers.
- Kudos and thank you to the coaches and staff involved in the Lego Club.

### **PTO Meeting Minutes**

- Copies of the February and March meeting minutes were available for review. February Meeting Minutes and the March Meeting Minutes
- There was a motion to approve the February minutes. There was a second on the motion. The motion passed.
- There was a motion to approve the March minutes. There was a second on the motion. The motion passed.

### **Town Meeting Members from Barbieri**

- Many Barbieri parents ran for Town Meeting Member openings.
- Eighteen Barbieri parents were elected to Town Meeting.

### **Livia Cordova – Barbieri parent and long time volunteer for the Spelling Bee**

- Livia Cordova read the following as a response to statements that were falsely made in her name. She read her Spanish version first, and then asked the parent (Paul Neenan) sitting next to her to read her English version that is here below.
- Corey Spaulding interrupted Ms. Cordova's statement when offering to read the English version of the statement. Ms. Cordova re-iterated her desire to have Mr. Neenan read her English statement.

*See next page for statement in English.*

*Dear Sue, Chris, PTO Board members and Attendees,*

*I am writing these lines regarding to the recent statements and allegations that have been made on my behalf and would like to emphasize that I am not participating in those allegations and do not have any involvement at all. I was very clear at all times and asked to whom is making those statements to keep me and the Spelling Bee aside of any personal issues which I do not share but still respect. I know the school is currently facing difficult times due to the budget cut, but it is clear to me that the school staff are making their best with the available resources which are limited. I also know that being part of the PTO Board is a big responsibility of parent volunteers who are using part of their rewarding personal time doing their best for the benefit of our children. I think we all have the right to disagree but without being disagreeable, without personal attacks and without causing revolutions that disturb everybody's life. Lastly, whenever I have had a personal issue, I have addressed it and will continue to do it directly with the corresponding people without using others nor using school events that parents volunteers or school staff organize. I am able to speak on my behalf and express myself, and I will ask personally for help or support when I need it.*

*Please disregard all the statements and/or allegations that have been made using my name since I disagree and do not support them.*

*Sincerely,  
Livia Cordova*

**End of Meeting**

- There was a motion to end the meeting. There was a second on the motion. The motion passed.