

**Save the Date - Your Support is Needed!!!**



**PLEASE ATTEND THIS**

**VERY IMPORTANT MEETING** of the

**Boards of Selectmen & Finance: BRS Budget Presentation**

**Tuesday, February 6th at 6:00 PM**

**Woodbridge Town Hall**

**Dr. Stella will be presenting the school budget and a strong presence from the community is critical!**

### Your PTO Dollars at Work

by Jeanette Glicksman

The PTO Appropriations Committee met January 25<sup>th</sup> to approve requests from faculty, staff, administrators and parents. The Committee was comprised of 2 past PTO presidents, the PTO treasurer, a representative of the general PTO membership, 2 administrative representatives, and last year's Teacher of the Year.

The PTO may only approve requests to support or enhance rather than supplant the WBOE's operating budget for any given year. It is not allowed to provide for anything that is considered a vehicle for the delivery of curriculum or for the school's facilities.

The budget for the Committee was set at \$5,000.00. Earlier this school year, \$1,100.00 was appropriated (as per an earlier vote) to cover the cost of the two new signs at the entrance to the Beecher campus.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> the Committee approved the following requests: seed

money for a Drama Club, new Ellison Dies, sand for two sandboxes, a binding machine for the Intermediate House, playground supplies, hand sanitizers for the cafeteria, picture frames for student art and gardening supplies. These requests were then approved by the general membership at the January 29<sup>th</sup> PTO meeting.

The requests will be submitted to the Woodbridge Board of Education for its approval before final purchases are made.

Thanks to all who attend PTO fundraising events like the Ice Cream Social and Halloween Hoot and to those of you who support the PTO through fundraising drives such as the gift wrap sales and book fairs. Your contributions allow the PTO to support our school. Thanks to the members of the Committee for taking time to consider all requests.

### BRS PTO Meeting Recap

by Suzanne Rosenberg

The 1/29/07 PTO meeting was well attended as about 25 parents came to hear Dr. Stella present the FY07/08 proposed budget. The salient points presented by Dr. Stella included:

- The FY06/07 approved budget of \$10,343,854 represented a less than 0% increase over the FY05/06.
- The resulting shortfall was expected, and yielded an adjusted FY06/07 budget of \$10,680,464
- Shortfalls were primarily due to special education and health benefit costs, and a salary attrition factor that did not materialize
- The FY07/08 requested budget of \$11,366,862 represents an increase of 6.43% over the FY2007 adjusted budget. This budget supports a 21st century

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## BOXTOPS REMINDER!



As the volunteer coordinator for Box Tops for Education at Beecher Road School, I'd like to give you an update on our progress. This year we set a goal of \$1034 to be used towards special activities as well as classroom support. Thanks to supporters like you, we've raised \$443 dollars. At 10 cents a Box Tops coupon this is an amazing amount, however we are still far from our goal. With your continued help I hope we can reach and even surpass our goal.

I have found that many of you cut coupons but the process stops there. We need to get all the coupons to Beecher so they can be credited to our school. Remember that this is free money that benefits our children!

Our last official collection for the 2006-2007 school year will be Tuesday February 13th. Please send all Box Tops in with your children by this date. There is a collection box in the North office and each classroom has a special envelope for Box Tops for Education.

Please remember that the Box Tops for Education program is ongoing. Please continue to cut, clip and tear as all coupons submitted after 2/13/07 will go towards next year's goal. Let's continue to promote this worthy program at Beecher Road School

Thank you for choosing to make a difference at our school with Box Tops.

Mindy Rosow,

Box Tops for Education Chair.

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model of education.

- 80% of the budget is contractual obligations and fringe benefits
- Transportation accounts for 10% of the budget
- The State of Connecticut uses a strict audited formula to measure per pupil expenditure. Our per pupil expenditure is on the high side, but one reason for this is that we are a small K-6 district. There is no economy of scale when compared to regional districts or K-12 systems. Additionally, since the Town chose to be a School District, there must be a district level leadership team to function effectively. Dr. Stella voiced this opinion based

on his own many years of experiences in a wide range of school districts

Feedback on the Welcome Desk idea yielded little response from BRS parents as far as their availability to participate. However, the Senior Center is going to place a request for volunteers in their next newsletter and there may be some interest from that group to partner with the school.

Sarah Davison announced that there will be a Spring Picture Day on April 19th as a fundraiser for the PTO (no class picture). She will be meeting with Lifetouch and details will be coming soon.

The next PTO meeting will be April 2nd.

## BRS PTO WANTS YOU!

### OFFICERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE FOLLOWING

Faculty and Staff Luncheon Chair Elect

Ways and Means Chair Elect

Special Activities Chair Elect (MAG)

Special Activities Chair Elect

Ice Cream Social Elect

Halloween Hoot Elect

Hospitality Co-Chair

Hospitality Chair Elect

Holiday Toy Drive Chair Elect

School Picture Day Co-Chairs Elect

6th Grade Graduation Committee

6th Grade Year Book Co-Chairs

6th Grade Year Book Chair Elect

Membership (Directory)

Membership Chair Elect

Box Tops Chair Elect

2 Pager Chair Elect

Community Publicity Chair

Treasurer Elect

Please feel free to contact Jeanette Glicksman at 389-8333 or Mary Hill at 393-1999 if you would like to volunteer.

NOTE: Elect chairs will serve in the FY08/09 school year.

## POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE By Betty Murphy

The policy sent for 30 day review in September was: **Policy 5141.1 Tuberculosis Testing**

In October - **Policy 5147 – Parent/Student rights in identification, evaluation and placement under section 504 of the rehabilitation act of 1973** – this talks about where children are placed

Both of these policies have been approved by the WBOE and are available at the BRS Library.

January '07 the meeting was about **Policy 5141.23 – Students with Special Health Care needs – Specifically Special Dietary Needs/Allergies**. The other one discussed was - **Policy 6173 (which is new) – titled Homebound Instruction**. If you are interested in more information about these policies, please contact Betty Murphy at bamurphy@optonline.net, subject "BRS policy."

## SIXTH GRADE GRADUATION REMINDER by Betty Murphy

Sixth Grade graduation will be June 15<sup>th</sup> unless there are snow days to be made up. If you would like to be a part of the planning of this special day, please e-mail bamurphy@optonline.net (please mark "graduation ceremony" in the subject box) or call and leave a message @ 393-9738. We invite parents of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade to be a part of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade ceremony so that next year they have a baseline idea of the event. Parents of 5<sup>th</sup> graders can use the same e-mail and telephone number as noted above to leave a message.

