



What happened at the PTO meeting this month?

This month's PTO meeting was May 2nd in the Bishop Library. Thanks to all who attended, especially the newcomers to PTO meetings!

Mark your Calendars * Bishop Fair May 19, 10:00 – 3:00**

Next PTO meeting May 30th @ 7:00 Bishop Library

A NEW FUNDRAISING opportunity was presented by David Gorden and Kiera Campbell: *Thrive Farmer's Coffee*. This organization is committed to sustainable and fair coffee farming through direct relationships with coffee farmers, creating a more efficient coffee supply chain. In this fundraiser, families can purchase coffee directly, have it delivered, and benefit the PTO at the same time. Look for more information (and order forms) at the Bishop Fair.

Mary Ellen Aronow and Brecky Peabody (PTO Co-presidents) presented several new initiatives from the PTO Steering Committee:

1. A survey to teachers to find out what they would like from room parents and the PTO.
2. A survey to the parents to help plan next year's PTO activities.
3. Planning for a PTO Annual Report, which will be distributed at the end of the school year.

The PTO bylaws were amended to increase the number of treasurers to two (2 year staggered terms) with a majority vote (2 abstained from voting). Since the term for the current treasurer is finished, there will be openings for two new treasurers for the coming year. Other positions up for election for 2012-2013 are PTO Co-President (Junior) and Recording Secretary. A call for nominations will be sent to parents soon.

Teacher Appreciation Week.

Next week is 'National Teacher Appreciation Week'. People are encouraged to recognize teachers in that week, however the formal Bishop Teacher Appreciation events will be held in late May to early June so as to not conflict with the large numbers of volunteers currently needed for the Bishop Fair.

Principal's Update.

Mr. McAneny reminded everyone that MCAS testing is coming up again next week and the following week. He also mentioned some of the great events in the past month have included the all-school choral concert, origami enrichment program, and the visit to Bishop from the students from Arlington's sister city, Nagaokakyo, Japan.

The classroom placement process is underway with plans to send out letters with finalized classroom and teacher assignments by mid July. Parents are invited to write to Mr. McAneny with any particular placement concerns. Currently, Bishop anticipates having the same number of classes as this year.

School supplies: To help with planning for next year, parents suggested that the teachers generate a list (by grade) of the typical supplies that teachers will be requesting. If teachers have particular needs for their classroom, that notice will be sent to the children in their class towards the end of the summer.

And the BIG NEWS for May is the upcoming BISHOP FAIR. Mark your calendars for this great community event May 19th (rain date May 20th). Classrooms have been assigned games for parent volunteers. Check out <http://www.arlington.k12.ma.us/bishop/communityBishopFair.asp> for a list of the fun events planned for the day, details of the event and the link to sign up as a volunteer. The next drop off for the Bishop Fair used goods sale is May 7th (Monday) in the Bishop parking lot.