

**AINSWORTH FOUNDATION**  
**Minutes of a Regular Meeting**  
**of the Board of Directors**

**January 8, 2007, 11:45 a.m.**  
**Offices of New & Neville,**  
**900 SW 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 210, Portland**

**Attending:**

*Board Members:* Kimberly Bakken, Christine Carr, Kanth Gopalpur, Nancy Hinnen, David Kenney, Whitney Klonsky, Amy Kohnstamm, Robin Lanahan, Tim Leahy.

*Principal:* Liz Casson-Taylor.

*Other Parents:* Jennifer Fellman, Red Ball Co-Chair.

*Absent:* Jennifer O'Brien, Dara Wilk.

**Welcome/ Approval of Minutes**

Tim Leahy and Kimberly Bakken welcomed the Board to the meeting. A quorum being present, upon motion by Whitney Klonsky, seconded by Robin Lanahan, the minutes from the December meeting were approved.

Amy Kohnstamm, who is also a member of the Portland Schools Foundation, posed a question about the Ainsworth Foundation's role in allocating funds raised by it. She pointed out that the Chalkboard Project has provided us with more information than we have ever had regarding the effective and efficient use of extra school funds for staffing. The Chalkboard Project's recommendations can be found on their website, [www.chalkboardproject.org](http://www.chalkboardproject.org). Brief discussion ensued regarding the appropriate body (whether it be the Foundation or Site Council) to advise or provide recommendations to the principal. No action was taken at this time.

**Financial Update**

Mr. Gopalpur reported that the Foundation has approximately \$362-385,000 available. We have raised around \$31,000 so far this school year. One of the reasons there is so much money still remaining is because of staffing changes at the Portland School District, so they have not collected for our staffing this year. Ms. Casson-Taylor indicated that the new financial officer we will be dealing with is Ann Madsen. Ms. Madsen has informed Ms. Casson-Taylor that the district will be sending out a bill by the end of this week.

**Principal Feedback/Comments**

Staffing allocations for next year will be made by February 13, based on our student levels as of October 1, 2006 (510 students). Kindergarten roundup will be January 23 at 6:30 p.m.; immersion tours will begin in February.

### **Red Ball Update**

Our guest today, Jennifer Fellman, is co-chair of Red Ball. She provided a brief update to the Board of the preparations for Red Ball. They still need a volunteer coordinator for the auction day. Since the event falls on St. Patrick's Day this year, there will be an Irish band following the live auction as well as two performers wandering around during the silent auction. They are into procurement right now. Trish Green and Amy Kohnstamm are co-chairing procurement, with Amy taking charge of following up on past donors. There will be a kickoff for Red Ball this Friday, with balloons in the morning and coffee and cookies in the afternoon. They are still working on determining a raffle prize. There is a sponsorship program for different levels - \$10,000; \$5,000; \$2500, etc., with defined benefits for each level.

Ms. Fellman asked some questions regarding mechanics of paying for things now. Apparently in the past there was a float, but right now there is no money in the bank. Mr. Gopalpur said he will write checks to the account as needed, with \$5,000 to start off. Mr. Gopalpur is also taking care of insurance.

The Red Ball website is being done by Craig Sabina.

### **Major Donors/Calling Campaign**

Jenni O'Brien and Christine Carr reported that the number of donations this year is not significantly different but this year people are writing bigger checks. They have drafted a new family letter which will be sent out shortly, with a new fact sheet.

Some board members commented that they thought the letter in NewsNotes setting a hope/expectation of \$1,000 per child may be helping the trend of bigger donations. The calling campaign co-chairs suggested that the tenor of campaign calls change to encourage participation and contributions to Red Ball as well as direct donations. David Kenney asked whether we should be trying to recruit people for Raise the Paddle if they are willing to donate a significant amount. Discussion ensued regarding whether we will try to set a goal for Raise the Paddle. There was general support for this idea. The thank-you column in NewsNotes will keep old names and have new ones in bold lettering.

The Board members discussed when the thermometers (gauging total amount raised and percentage of families contributing) should be put on display. The consensus was to put it up before Red Ball - around March 1 - so that the community could see before and after results. In response to a question by one Board member as to where to focus efforts (on larger donors versus number of donors), Mr. Leahy said he thought that percentage of donors would be more in the final efforts, after Red Ball.

Robyn Lanahan reported that Courtney Fitzloff, an incoming parent next year, is hosting a new family coffee at her house on Wednesday, January 10, so that parents new to Ainsworth can have a chance to ask questions of Foundation members. Several Board members undertook to go to the coffee.

### **Other Business**

The website is still not complete, but close.

Upon my motion, seconded by Mr. Kenney, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Nancy Hinnen  
Secretary

**Next Meeting: Monday, February 12, 2007, 11:45 am  
Offices of New & Neville, 900 SW 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 210, Portland**