**School Council Meeting Oct. 8, 2015**

Present:

Rebecca Gordon, Ferryway Principal

Peg Crowe: YWCA & Ward I City Counselor

Rae Payson- parent & co-chair of council

Sandra Rodriguez-parent

Mike Harvey- teacher

Earl Fitzpatrick-teacher

Christina Terranova-teacher

Susan Shapiro, Teacher

Tenille Thomas,parent

Tom Ruan-parent

1. Explanation of school council mission- is an advisory board for the principal, gives an overview of Ferryway events and discusses budget and school improvement plan.
2. 21st century learning grant-Peg Crowe secured a 140,000 grant for this out-of-school time program for Ferryway. Lasts for 3 years and is renewable. Will be Monday to Thursday after school from 3:40-6pm with homework time and a snack provided. Free to students! Project-based learning with a STEM focus. It will have a family involvement piece and a social-emotional tie-in. Looking for more students to sign-up, suggestions given for a Connect-Ed call as well as possibly inviting stakeholders in to give small presentations to draw students in.

School Garden with Mr. Fitzpatrick supervising building of beds. Green City Growers will be involved with this project. Also “Future Cities” which is based off of the ‘Sim City’ model. Guiding question is “How can we make the world a better place?” Engineers will be brought in to coordinate with the teacher on this project.

Peg Crowe is looking for more teachers for this afterschool program. Hopefully Ms. Crowe will help reestablish field trips to the Saugus Ironworks and the Lowell Mills, since these field trips have been on hold due to high cost.

1. Budget update: The cuts as of last May resulted in us losing 3 paraprofessional positions and our librarian. Ms. Gordon is looking for parent volunteers to staff the library to enable students to take out books. She has a parent scheduled for Mondays and Tuesdays thus far.

Grant from the EOS foundation gave the Ferryway $500 for the over 80% participation in the BIC. The money allowed Ferryway to purchase more barrels for the breakfast refuse.

BIC participation rate is dipping this year. As of September it was down to the mid- 70%. The EOS Foundation will allow for an incentive of $100 to teams who sustain a higher participation rate.

The ELT grant was up last year after 3 years. The ELT team is going to write up the performance goals for the next three-year cycle. The goals are three-fold: academic, professional development/teacher collaboration, and enrichment. On 10/16 this ELT team will meet at 8:10 to determine goals that have specific measures and benchmarks. Suggestions are welcome. A draft document is due to the state by 10/30. Final is due sometime in January.

1. Next School council meeting is set for November 5th. On the docket:
* ELT performance agreement/School improvement plan
* Enrichment program update
* YWCA partnership check-in
* Other items?