




THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF BROOKLINE
BROOKLINE, MASSACHUSETTS 02445

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ANDREW BOTT
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

MARY ELLEN DUNN
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT
FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

TO: Andrew Bott, Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Matthew J. Gillis, Director of Operations & Facilities 

RE: Vote to Accept Gift - Gaga Ball for the Driscoll School

DATE: June 15, 2017

Per Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53A, the School Committee should vote to accept gifts. From a practical application, especially gifts that change the structure of school property. Here is an excerpt of the law for your reference.

"An officer or department of any city or town, or of any regional school or other district, may accept grants or gifts of funds from the federal government and from a charitable foundation, a private corporation, or an individual, or from the commonwealth, a county or municipality or an agency thereof, and in the case of any grant or gift given for educational purposes may expend said funds for the purposes of such grant or gift with the approval of the school committee..."

The Gaga Ball pit proposed for Driscoll is hexagon shape to fit into proposed area at Driscoll. We have one at the Heath School in operation for just over a year now. The only anticipated maintenance is replacing the balls from time to time, some cleaning, and resetting of the mats.

Michael Bartlett, Operations Manager for Parks and Open Space, received the below estimate for the gaga pit and pad.

Pit and additional boards	\$3,141.60
Rubber mat system	\$1,647.96
Total cost	\$4,789.56

Parks and open space can have the estimate addressed to the Driscoll School PTO at the Driscoll School address and go ahead and get this ordered if you would like to move forward. We have a written commitment from the Driscoll PTO to fund this project and the Parks and Open Space team will administer this and oversee the installation after the gift has been accepted.

Recommended motion: "Move to accept the gift of the Gaga Ball Pit donated from the Driscoll PTO to be located at the Driscoll School as proposed on the attached documents."

CC: Heidi Cook, Principal, Driscoll School
CC: Charlie Simmons, Director of Town Buildings
CC: Erin Gallentine, Director of Parks and Open Space
CC: Mary Ellen Dunn, Deputy Superintendent For Administration and Finance

Mary Ellen Dunn
Deputy Superintendent for Administration and Finance
Public Schools of Brookline
333 Washington Street
Brookline, MA 02445

David Pollak, Chair
Brookline School Committee
Public Schools of Brookline
333 Washington Street
Brookline, MA 02445

June 14, 2017

Dear Chairperson Pollak and Deputy Superintendent Dunn:

I write to you as co-chair of the Michael Driscoll School PTO. We herewith authorize an expenditure of up to \$5,000 of PTO funds, to provide payment for establishing a "Gaga Pit" on the grounds of the Driscoll School. Erin Gallentine, Director of Open Space for the Parks and Recreation Department, has reviewed the site and the plans. She has agreed to administer and oversee installation of the project.

We request that the school committee and town of Brookline accept the donation of up to \$5,000 for a Gaga Pit to be designed and sited as discussed with Ms. Gallentine and Principal Cook. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Valerie K. Frias,
Co-Chair, Driscoll PTO



