

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING PROGRAM IN CANTON, MA  
INCLUDING FPS BOOKLET COMPETITION (FPS) & INDIVIDUALS  
COMMUNITY PROBLEM SOLVING (CmPS)  
AND SCENARIO WRITING

**1986-1987**

FPS: 3 teams started by Linda Silverstein, parent of a student in the PACE program, Mr. Curran, Mr. Cohen

**1987-1988** . New PACE director, Marilyn Harris, assumes leadership of Canton FPS

FPS: 4 teams

Junior 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Team (Coach:Silverstein) and FIRST at the International

Junior 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Team (Coach: Curran)

**1988-1989**

FPS: 4 teams; 2 went to State Bowl

Junior 2<sup>nd</sup> Place State (Coach:Silverstein); went to International

Individual Middle State Champion (Erica Silverstein). Third place at the International

**1989-1990**

FPS: 7 teams

**1991-1992**

FPS: 10 teams

Junior 2<sup>nd</sup> Place State (Coach: Silverstein)

Individual Junior – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Stephen Hallowell

**1992-1993**

FPS: 11 teams; 3 went to State

Junior Division State Champion (Coach:Harris)

Individual Junior – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Tracy Foley

Junior Scenario Writing – Tracy Foley – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Middle Scenario Writing – Erica Silverstein – 1<sup>st</sup> Place; 2<sup>nd</sup> at International

**1993-1994**

FPS: 13 teams; 1 went to State

Junior Individual – Michael Silverstein – 1<sup>st</sup>

Junior Individual – Stephen Hallowell – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Junior Scenario Writing – Rachel Martin – 3<sup>rd</sup>

**1994-1995**

FPS: 15 teams; 5 went to State

Middle Division-2<sup>nd</sup> Place (Coach: Harris); went to International

### **1995-1996**

FPS: 14 teams; 3 went to State

Community Problem Solving (CmPS): 1<sup>st</sup> year competing as PACE 6<sup>th</sup> grade program

Junior Division: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Luce Expansion Project – raising awareness of need for expansion

### **1996-1997**

FPS: 15 teams; 4 went to State

Middle Division Individual – Chris Oates – 1<sup>st</sup>

Junior Division individual – Daniel Hung – 2<sup>nd</sup>

CmPS: did not compete

### **1997-1998**

FPS: 20 teams; 3 went to State

Middle Division State Champion (Coach: Harris)

CmPS:

Junior Division – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place; PACE web page

Junior Individual – Daniel Hung – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

### **1998-1999**

FPS: 13 teams; 6 went to State

CmPS:

Junior Division State Champion. Vernal Pool Project. (Coach:Harris) Because vernal pools are exclusive homes and breeding grounds to certain animals which depend on them for survival, the team decided to increase awareness by creating Discovery Kits for the three town elementary schools so that teachers would be able to do lessons on vernal pools. Finished second at International in Category

### **1999-2000**

FPS: 14 teams

Middle Division State Champion (Coach:Knox)

CmPS:

Junior Division State Champion. Pennies for Patients (Coach:Harris). Organized district-wide Pennies for Patient fund-drive to raise money for the Leukemia Society (over \$7,000 raised) and created curriculum materials to teach others about the disease and the work of the society.

### **2000-2001**

FPS: 12 teams

CmPS:

Junior Division State Champion (Coach:Harris): Outdoor Classroom/Nature Trail at Luce School. (Coach:Harris) Established nature trail at the back of Luce School and wrote extensive curriculum materials to support use of trail by district teachers. State Champions, FIRST PLACE in category at the International

## **2001-2002**

FPS: 14 teams; 4 went to State

Junior Division – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place (Coaches: Schay-Barker & Rocha)

Middle Division: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (Coach:Harris) Finished fifth at the International

Senior Division State Champions (Coach:Knox)

CmPS:

Junior Division State Champion (Coach:Harris): Master Plan. Worked with Town Planning Board to present kids' and elders' points of view on the new Town Master Plan. State Champion and Third Place in category at International

Scenario Writing:

Ginger Leone, 3rd place in State

## **2002-2003**

FPS: 12 teams

Middle Division State Champion (Coach:Harris)

Middle Division – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (Coach:Shen)

CmPS:

Junior Division State Champion: Veteran project (Coach:Gruberman), collected oral history from local WWII veterans. State Champion and Second Place in category at International.

Scenario Writing:

Naomi Barker—3rd in State Competition

## **2003-2004**

FPS:11 teams; 7 teams advanced to State

Senior State Champion (Coach:Harris)

CmPS: From this year on, CmPS is not part of the PACE program.

Junior Division State Champion (Coaches:Harris,Guimond,Winchell): Cemetery Project. Worked with Canton Historical Society to do a complete survey of unrecorded gravesites in oldest section of cemetery. Involved gridding, collection of data, photographing each stone, establishment of database. State Champion and FIRST PLACE in category at International Middle Division—(Coach:Curri van) Library Preservation Project. Helped with new library and subsequent flood damage. Second at State

## **2004-2005**

FPS: 9 teams

Junior State Champion (Coach:Harris), 2nd Place at International

Middle Division State Champion (Coach:Cattel)

Senior Division State Champion (Coach:Harris)

CmPS: 3 teams

Junior Division State Champion (Coaches:Bronstein, Leoni, Harris). BRIDGES project. Worked with Tower Hill Nursing Home to provide intellectual and social stimulation to residents. State Champion and Second in Category at International

Middle Division. Canton Historical Walk (Coaches:Cattel,Bonica,Shen). Identified key

historical sites, mapped out trail, worked on textbook for local history. 2nd at State Senior Division State Champions (Coach:Schay-Barker). Wardwell Project. Project concerns three major areas: mapping, clean up, and preservation of a large area of public land in Canton.

Scenario Writing: 1 student

Naomi Barker—1st Place State Competition (Middle Division), Honorable Mention—International Competition

## **2005-2006**

FPS: 8 teams; 4 went to State

Middle Division State Champion (Coach:Shen)

Middle Division Individual State Champion (Michael Bronstein) – 4th at International

CmPS:

Junior Division State Champion—Energy Conservation Project. (Coaches:Winchell, O'Brien) Sponsored programs at the school to encourage energy conservation at home; ran energy conserving bulb sale. State Championship and 3rd at International in category.

Senior Division State Champion (Coaches:Cattel, Bonica): Canton Historical Walk Project; continuation from previous year with emphasis on trail markers and 3rd grade textbook. Recently received grant and CAPE award to cover printing of 3rd grade textbook. FIRST in category at International.

Scenario Writing:

Naomi Barker—1st Place State Competition (Middle Category), 5th Place International Competition

## **2006-2007**

FPS: 7 teams

Junior Division State Champion (Coach:Bronstein) —One of few 5th grade teams to ever make it to International

Middle Division—3rd place in state (Coach:Harris)

CmPS:

Junior Division State Champion (Coaches:Hanscom,Vought) Worked with Massachusetts Hospital School to increase community awareness of its work and to assist in centennial celebration. Finished third in category at International.

Scenario Writing:

Naomi Barker—2nd Place State Senior Division

Josh Sheehan—Middle Division

## **2007-2008**

FPS: 13 teams

Junior Division State Champion (Coach:Bronstein) [2nd year in the row for this team]. Finished second in the world at the International Competition.

Middle Division State Champion (Coach:Harris)

CmPS:

Junior Division State Champion (Coaches:Bronstein & Crespi): "Peek Inside Pequitside,"

sought to make Pequitside Farm more "user-friendly" to visitors, so they will use it more often, particularly as a way to learn about nature and the outdoors first-hand rather than from a book. Finished Second in Category at the International Competition Middle Division (Coach:Hanscom) Finished Second at the State Competition; Finished Fourth in Category at the International. G.O.T.O.H.O.M.S.S. (Getting Our Town to Help Out the Mainspring Shelter), aims to raise the consciousness of the people of Canton to the fact that homelessness is an epidemic in nearby communities, so that they will be encouraged to give some of their excess (resources, "throwaways" and skills) for use by those in need.

## **2008-2009**

FPS: 9 teams; 4 went to State

Junior Division 4<sup>th</sup> Place (Coaches:Prendergast/Stark) – 4<sup>th</sup> grade team

Middle Division State Champion (Coach:Bronstein) [3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive win for this team]

Middle Division 3<sup>rd</sup> Place (Coach:Hanscom)

Senior Division 3<sup>rd</sup> Place (Coach:Harris)

Junior Division Individual State Champion (Coach:Hanscom) – Dasol Lee

CmPS:

Junior Division State Champion (Coaches: Bonica,Winchell,Halloran) Canton Food Pantry Project . A major part of their project involved computerizing their manual processes to remove the need for handwritten data records and enable them to quickly and efficiently contact donors and volunteers as needed.

Middle Division State Champion (Coach:Hanscom) F.A.S.T. (Food Allergy Support Team) Concerned with the lack of empathy for over 70 school age children (2.5% of our total school population) with SEVERE food allergies in Canton, they worked to make our community and schools a safer place for them through raising awareness of the problem.