

January 2017 Newsletter

Northfield Elementary School PTO

The Northfield Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization that works to enrich the educational experience for the school community.



The NES PTO would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year! Hope you enjoyed your holiday break and are looking forward to a new year. The PTO has many fun and exciting things planned for the remainder of the school year! Help is always needed and greatly appreciated! Come to a meeting, or check the PTO website or Facebook page to keep up-to-date on all PTO happenings!



Playground Committee Meeting

At the Special Town Meeting that was held back on December 5, 2016, the town voters approved \$10,000 for the PTO to install new swings

on the school playground. Thank you to everyone that supported the PTO and the funding of this project. The Playground Committee will meet on **Wednesday, January 25th** at 7:00pm in the NES library. Topics that will be discussed include the upcoming installation of the new swings and the planning of playground fundraisers, including the golf tournament. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting!



Family Movie Night

Come to the NES Gym on **Saturday, January 21st** for a showing of "Zootopia" projected onto the big screen! Admission to this event is **FREE!** Bring your

sleeping bags, pillows, blankets and lawn chairs to set up on the gym floor. (Children will need to be accompanied by an adult - this is not a drop off event.) **Movie starts at 6:00pm but the PTO concession stand will open at 5:00pm...** hot dogs, chips, drinks, and snacks will be available to purchase. Popcorn will be free! Hope to see you there!



Upcoming Events

January 21st

Family Movie Night, NES Gym
Concessions open at 5:00pm
Movie starts at 6:00pm

January 25th

Playground Committee Meeting
NES Library, 7pm

January 27th

Birds of Prey Enrichment Program
Assembly for all NES children

January 27th

Box Tops collection

February 1st

PTO Meeting, NES Library, 6:30pm





NES PTO Market Report

Thank you to everyone that bought produce from the PTO Market back on December 21st and helped raise over \$1,100! These very generous donations of produce are from a good friend of the NES PTO with all the food coming from C&S Wholesale Grocers in Hatfield. All of the food is grocery store quality, but offered below grocery store prices! Watch for more info coming home soon about the next PTO Market!



Holiday Break Movie Report

Thank you to everyone that came out to see "SING" during school vacation on Tuesday, December 27th, 2016 at the Greenfield Garden Cinemas. This event raised \$945 for the PTO! Thank you to Greenfield Garden Cinemas for hosting this fundraising event!



Skating Day Report

Thank you to everyone that came to ice skate on Monday, January 2nd at the Collins-Moylan Ice Arena in Greenfield. This event raised \$370 that will go directly to the playground fund and be used toward improvements on the playground.



Box Tops Report

So far this school year, you have helped raise \$393.40 for NES! The Winter Box Tops contest has begun and will run through the end of February (current totals for each grade are in the chart to the right).

You may send in your Box Tops to school anytime and the next

collection will be on **Friday, January 27th**. You can help raise even more for NES when you download the new **Box Tops Bonus App** to discover brands and retailers offering Bonus Box Tops. (You can find it on the App store and Google Play). Any questions or suggestions, please contact the Box Tops Coordinators, Missy Kalinowski (marleysage@comcast.net) or Holly Stacy (hollystacy@comcast.net). **Keep clipping those Box Tops!**

Pre-K	0
K	35
1	35
2	55
3	37
4	15
5	0
6	0
TOTAL	177



Birds of Prey Enrichment Program

Friday, January 27th (rescheduled from Jan. 18th)

The NES PTO is excited to bring this amazing program to the children of NES! Tom Ricardi is a licensed rehabilitator and wildlife biologist who is retired after 40 years of service as a Massachusetts Environmental Fish and Wildlife game warden and now runs the Massachusetts Birds of Prey Rehabilitation Center in Conway, MA, caring for injured birds. He travels throughout New England and New York providing information aimed at helping people appreciate, respect, and assist in the conservation of these important raptors. There will be two, 30-45 minute assemblies (one presentation for Pre-K - 2nd grade and

another presentation for 3rd - 6th grade) featuring some of his amazing raptors and may include a Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Red-Tailed Hawk, Harris Hawk, Kestrel, Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, and Eurasian Eagle Owl. Tom will share the natural history of these magnificent birds, demonstrate some of their unique behaviors and inspire children of all ages to appreciate, respect and conserve these important members of our wild kingdom.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Northfield Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.





Fundraising Goal - \$15,000 / Currently Raised - \$10,903.88

The PTO has been very successful with fundraisers so far this year! Many thanks to everyone that has supported the PTO fundraisers and events!

A great school requires great support! Because of the decline in educational funding, the Teachers and Staff at Northfield Elementary School depend on supplemental funds from the PTO to help them attain their academic goals and to enrich the educational programs offered to our children. The NES PTO depends on the strong financial commitment and dedication of parents, families, friends and members of the community. With your support, we can ensure our school continues to thrive and excel, and that our children receive an amazing and well-rounded academic and social experience. For more information on exactly what the PTO funds, please visit the PTO website www.nespto.org. Thank you in advance for supporting the fundraisers and events to help the PTO reach this fundraising goal.



The next PTO meeting is **Wednesday, February 1st at 6:30pm** in the NES Library. Everyone is welcome to attend & share and discuss ideas about the PTO and its activities. (Childcare and light snacks are provided).

January PTO Meeting Report

Below are highlights from the January 4th PTO meeting. To read the full minutes of the meeting, please visit the PTO website - www.nespto.org. The website also has the minutes and agendas from previous meetings, the Budget Reports and the Principal's Report that Megan Desmarais provides at each meeting.

- The PTO was approved for three LCC (Local Cultural Council) grants to help fund this year's enrichment programs (Birds of Prey, FIRE POND, and Ed the Wizard)
- Much discussion regarding families forced to walk up the ramp/driveway and in the bus loop due to the snow; is there is a plan regarding a cleared and shoveled path from the back parking lot to front of the school? Cannot have a shoveled path due to the grade/slope; decided that there will be no parking on either side of the "ramp" (driveway leading down into the back parking lot) to allow for people to walk up the ramp and into the bus loop to the front of the school; the first four parking spaces in the front row will be designated "visitor parking" to allow for parents dropping off and/or picking up and for those that are at the school for a short time during the day
- Internet Safety Night – Cheryl reached out to Police Chief Leighton, he will reach out to DA's office and other contacts to see if there are local contacts that would be able to do a presentation at the school free of charge; this presentation would be more of an informational wakeup call
- Reading Challenge and Family Bingo Night coming in March (dates TBD)
- Planning for Spring Carnival & Fun Run will be discussed at next meeting

*****Please add the following name to your NES Directory*****

2nd Grade- Mrs. Tibbetts

Eli Messer

Beth & Nate Messer
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Leyden, MA 01301
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