

NES PTO MEETING MINUTES

Northfield Elementary School PTO Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Lara Dubin, Chair at 6:35pm

In attendance

Lara Dubin, Cheryl George, Stacy Quinn, Nolan Kitfield, Jennifer Chabott, Tom King, Deb Potee, Serena Vassar

Treasurer's Report: Nolan Kitfield

- Bulbs and Mums together made about the same as just the bulbs last year
- Community/social events line item over budget; budget more for next year?
- Purchased six folding tables (under equipment)

Principal's Report: Tom King

- MCAS Parent Report mailed out to 3rd – 6th grade families; informative, showing growth
- PARCC testing will be replacing the MCAS testing (testing held in March and May)
- PARCC test will all be taken on the computer with shorter, timed sessions; is it better? (being on computer screen too long can be tiring, students ability to type using the keyboard)
- NES has instituted a constitution and school rules; representatives from each classroom helped; all school assembly held

Enrichment Programs

- PTO usually has two enrichment programs per school year; Cultural Council grants help with funding
- ScienceTellers (interactive story; two groups of kids); \$850 (or \$1200 for two schools?)
- Mister G (children's singer/songwriter); possibly two assemblies, one for younger kids, another for older students; \$900
- Whalemobile (giant 40 foot inflatable whale); joint event with Dickinson Memorial Library; approx. 30 people inside at once; held end of January; offer dinner option?

Pumpkin Carving Night & Pumpkinfest

- Cheryl George and Missy Kalinowski, coordinators
- Given large donation of pumpkins (approx. 100) from farmer in Hatfield; will be getting another large donation on Thursday
- Everything set for carving night; Chief Leighton and Junior Firefighters will help
- Pumpkinfest baked good donations needed

T-shirt Sales

- Jennifer Chabott, coordinator
- Online sales available year round with many options
- Possibly send home basic option with different, local company?

Teacher's Luncheon

- Thursday, November 13th (parent/teacher conferences); Stacy Quinn and Theresa Tsipenyuk will coordinate

Playground Report

- Fitness Trail needs maintenance (fire torch the weeds)
- Add new piece to the playground soon (musical item or other item in catalog)
- Mulch; is it in town budget? Or in school budget? ; Town to take care of landscaping? ; Mr. King to look into what other schools within the district do in regards to their landscaping; Mr. King approved the ordering of 27 yards of mulch for around the playground equipment, school will pay the cost
- Fire Truck climbing structure; school committee will need to approve installation

Old Business

- Fall Fest went well; great day and good feedback; teacher's appreciated invitation

New Business

- Ideas for family fun nights: Grandparents Movie Night, game night, craft night; possibly involve Seniors from town
- Parent concern about school cleaning precautions with flu season coming and new Ebola outbreak; Mr. King stated there are no new procedures right now and that the custodians do a good job
- Parent questioned if bottled water could be an option for lunch; Mr. King stated that Gail Healy, assistant Superintendent, could provide more information

Next Meeting

Tuesday, November 4th, 6:30pm, NES Library

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm

Submitted by Cheryl George, Secretary