

NES PTO MEETING MINUTES

Northfield Elementary School PTO Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Lara Dubin at 6:40pm

In attendance

Lara Dubin, Tom King, Cheryl George, Nolan Kitfield, Missy Kalinowski, Deb Potee

Principal's Report

- On Fridays, teachers have been working on vertical alignment (first year doing this); for example, Pre-K teachers will meet with Kindergarten teachers, helps to allow for more flow of curriculum
- May 28th, the School Committee will vote on calendar for next school year; could start on Wednesday, September 2nd, with Pre-K & K starting the following Thursday
- Number of classrooms for next year: 1-PK, 2-K, 1-1st, 2-2nd, 2-3rd, 1-4th, 2-5th, 2-6th ; will probably be shifting around teachers
- School website: has been up to teachers to update their classroom; software being updated (work in progress); teachers will be able to access from home with new operating system

Treasurer's Report

- Assemblies: used all money budgeted
- Teacher Appreciation Week: used all money budgeted
- Secretaries week & bus driver money: have not used money yet
- Will not use any field trip money this year
- 3rd grade trip: \$30 per child, parents pay half, PTO will support this trip

Teacher Requests

- Lisa Wheeler (Kindergarten): Phonological Awareness Program (PASS) - \$500; an evaluation system; Mr. King will look into this program being covered in the early childhood education budget
- Carolyn Baskowski & Nolan Kitfield: headphones (4 noise cancelling, 4 normal) - \$170; approved, all in favor

Fundraisers

- Barnes & Noble Fundraiser: will get more info

Carnival & Fun Run Report

- See attached expenses report
- Need to have Dunk Tank rules posted (so that not everyone will get dunked)

Events

- 6th Grade farewell party: Northfield Inn Pool, instead of bowling trip
- 6th Grade Graduation: Monday, June 15th, 5:30pm, NES Gym; PTO will provide cake and punch, Lara will organize reception, will need 5th grade student(s)/ parent(s)
- Community Tag Sale: Saturday, May 30th, 8am-Noon; Sherri Haughey & Lara Dubin coordinators

Playground Report

- Playground gate: should the PTO pay for this?
- New Arch for Fairy Garden installed
- Fitness track resurfaced (materials & delivery donated by Lane)
- Will be installing new raised garden beds for Pre-K garden
- Hoping to have a Kids Garden Club again this year to work on garden area
- Playground meeting to be scheduled, possibly next week

Old Business

- Need to move June meeting date: Thursday, June 11th
- Unitarian Church would like to borrow the PTO's popcorn machine for the Disney songs concert on May 30th (a 50/50 fundraiser)
- [Click here to type minutes]

New Business

- Cheryl George will be Co-Chair next year with Lara; all in favor
- School Supplies: Kelly Gagnon will coordinate

- The PTO has been asked by the Recreation Commission that in the future, in order to use the sports fields behind the school, we will need to formally request use through the Recreation Commission & Selectboard. Principal Tom King stated that would not be necessary because the PTO is considered part of the school. In the future, the PTO will have a paper trail (letters and/or emails) of when and how we inform(ed) the Recreation Commission of PTO events and activities.
- Lara will be going to the Recreation Commission meeting on June 10th to discuss mowing a soon-to-be brush hogged area on the west side of the fitness track (back side of playground by the wood line, has become overgrown); Lara will be meeting with Snow's landscaping to get their professional opinion about the area.
- Dividers to replace worn ones in cafeteria: Tom King will look into his budget to see if there is money to buy them
- Nolan will look into how much it will be to purchase new audio system(s)
- Sign for crosswalk in front of school: does PTO want to purchase or donate some money toward the purchase of a new one? Will look into further

Next Meeting

Thursday, June 11th at 6:30pm, NES Library

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm

Submitted by Cheryl George, Secretary