

# October 2016 Newsletter

## Northfield Elementary School PTO

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

Happy Fall! Hope everyone is enjoying the cooler temps and beautiful colors on the trees. The PTO has some fun events planned for this fall season and all NES Families and Staff are invited to participate in these events, by attending or volunteering.



Unfortunately, the **Fall Festival** that was to take place on **Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>** had to be cancelled due to the forecasted rainy weather. Thank you to everyone that had volunteered to donate their time or an item to help with this event. Hopefully next year, the weather will cooperate!

### Scarecrow in the Park

**Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> (10am-4pm)**  
**Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> (10am-3pm)**

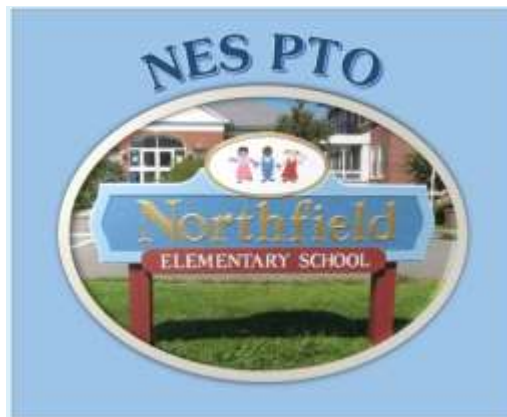
The NES PTO will be at this wonderful fall event held at Cushman Park in Bernardston. Stop by and enjoy a cup of autumn bisque, a gingerbread whoopie pie or some warm apple cider while you look at all of the scarecrows on display. Tickets for the Cash Calendar Raffle will also be available. Volunteers are needed

to help at the booth. If you are interested in helping, please sign up at <http://signup.com/go/5EsN1U> (or use the link on the PTO website) or email the PTO [northfieldelementarypto@gmail.com](mailto:northfieldelementarypto@gmail.com). Thank you in advance for your help and hope to see you there!



The next PTO meeting is **Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm** in the NES Library. All parents and guardians of NES students, as well as all NES Teachers & Staff, are considered to be members of the PTO and

are welcome to attend meetings to share ideas about the PTO and its activities. (Childcare and light snacks are provided).



### Upcoming Events

October 21<sup>st</sup>  
NO SCHOOL – Teacher In-service Day

October 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>  
PTO Booth at Scarecrow in the Park, Cushman Park, Bernardston

October 28<sup>th</sup>  
Pumpkin Carving Night, 5:00 – 7:30pm, NES Cafeteria

October 29<sup>th</sup>  
PTO Booth at Pumpkifest, 2-9pm, Avenue A in front of Shea Theater, Turners Falls

November 2<sup>nd</sup>  
PTO Meeting, 6:30pm, NES Library



At the October PTO meeting, Breinn Robert was appointed Co-Chair and will share the responsibilities of this position with Cheryl George. Thank you Breinn for volunteering!



## Cash Calendar Raffle

Win some extra cash for the holidays by taking a chance on the PTO Cash Calendar Raffle! Tickets for the Cash Calendar Raffle will be sold throughout the month of October. November 1st through November 30th, one ticket will be drawn each day and the name drawn will win the corresponding cash prize for that day. The same person can win more than once and a total of \$1,000.00 will be paid out! The calendar of the cash prizes that will be awarded is below. Tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for 5 tickets. Two booklets of 5 tickets each were sent with each child. If you need more tickets, email the

PTO, [northfieldelementarypto@gmail.com](mailto:northfieldelementarypto@gmail.com) or contact Kelly Gagnon, [413-345-0155](tel:413-345-0155). Please send sold tickets into school by **Friday, October 28th**. Tickets will also be sold at the PTO booth at Scarecrow in the Park (Oct 22 & 23) and at Pumpkinfest (Oct 29). Thank you for your support with this exciting fundraiser!

### November 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b> <b>\$50.00</b>	<b>2</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>3</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>4</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>5</b> <b>\$25.00</b>
<b>6</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>7</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>8</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>9</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>10</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>11</b> <b>\$50.00</b>	<b>12</b> <b>\$25.00</b>
<b>13</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>14</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>15</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>16</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>17</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>18</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>19</b> <b>\$25.00</b>
<b>20</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>21</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>22</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>23</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>24</b> <b>\$200.00</b>	<b>25</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>26</b> <b>\$25.00</b>
<b>27</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>28</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>29</b> <b>\$25.00</b>	<b>30</b> <b>\$50.00</b>			



## Time to send in your Box Tops!

The first collection of Box Tops for the school year will be on **Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**. Last year, the children of NES collected 10,141 Box Tops! The Box Tops coupons are worth 10¢ each when our school redeems them through Box Tops for Education, so that translates into \$1,014.10 that was raised last year just from clipping Box Tops! The goal this year is to raise \$1,500.00 for our school. Get extra credit for our school when you download the new **Box Tops Bonus App** to discover brands and retailers offering Bonus Box Tops and earn even more cash for our school! You can find it on the App store and Google Play. For more information about the contests, please visit the PTO website, [www.nespto.org](http://www.nespto.org). Any questions or suggestions, please contact the Box Tops Coordinators, Missy Kalinowski ([marleysage@comcast.net](mailto:marleysage@comcast.net)) or Holly Stacy ([hollystacy@comcast.net](mailto:hollystacy@comcast.net)). Thank You for choosing to make a difference for our school with Box Tops!



## **Pumpkin Carving Night – Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 – 7:30pm**

**\*\*WE HAVE PUMPKINS!\*\*** Now we need you to come help carve them! Come to the NES cafeteria on Friday night and help to beat last year's record of 304 carved pumpkins! We have the pumpkins and the tools, now we just need you to carve! The Northfield Police Department and Junior Fire Fighters will be on hand to help. *Hope to see you there!*

A HUGE THANK YOU to Patterson Farm, Bruce Golinski and April & Corey Greene for helping to find the fields where we picked the pumpkins! Thank you to Cheryl & Craig George, Missy Kalinowski, April & Corey Greene and Serena Vassar for helping to pick the pumpkins and transport them to the school. *And THANK YOU to all of the kids that helped too!*

A little history about Pumpkin Carving Night...For the past three years, the night before Pumpkinfest has been Pumpkin Carving Night at NES. The first year 106 pumpkins were carved, the second year 173 pumpkins were carved and last year 304 pumpkins were carved! The next day, these pumpkins are transported to the Franklin County Pumpkinfest in Turners Falls and placed around the NES PTO Booth. After the festival, many dedicated volunteers bring all of these pumpkins back to NES and line the sidewalk in front of the school with the pumpkins for the children to see! (The pumpkins will be illuminated on Halloween for the Rag Shag parade and trick-or-treating).



## **PUMPKINFEST 2016 - Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> ~ 2pm-9pm**

The NES PTO will have a booth at the **Franklin County Pumpkinfest**, Avenue A, Turners Falls (located in front of The Shea Theatre). The PTO will be selling apple cider and Cash Calendar Raffle tickets in addition to pumpkin and fall themed baked goods! Please consider making your favorite treat to sell at Pumpkinfest...anything made with pumpkin, shaped like a pumpkin, or any other goodie that has a fall or harvest theme. Be creative and have fun!! Please, only items that DO NOT REQUIRE REFRIGERATION. Also make sure your items are individually wrapped and ready for selling.

**Due to food allergy concerns, please include the exact name of your baked good and recipe.**

*All baked goods can be dropped off the night before Pumpkinfest at Pumpkin Carving Night.*

The PTO is using SignUp.com (an online SignUp and reminder tool) to organize the volunteers for this event. Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

- 1) Use this link to see the Pumpkinfest SignUp on SignUp.com: <http://signup.com/go/KVVmsN>  
(a link also available on the PTO website, [www.nespto.org](http://www.nespto.org))
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.
- 3) Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.com.

SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact the PTO, [northfieldelementarypto@gmail.com](mailto:northfieldelementarypto@gmail.com) and you can be signed up manually.

Questions? Call/text Cheryl George, (413)522-0576 or email, [northfieldelementarypto@gmail.com](mailto:northfieldelementarypto@gmail.com)





**Fundraising Goal - \$15,000**

**Currently Raised - \$1,336.49**

In every newsletter, there will be an update reflecting where the PTO is regarding the overall fundraising goal for the school year. Thank you in advance for supporting the fundraisers and events to help the PTO reach this goal.

**Why we Fundraise...** 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](http://www.nespto.org).

**Fit & Fresh** – The PTO earned \$158.39

**Fall Mums** – Sold 276 mums for a profit of \$753.80

**Fall Bulbs** – THANK YOU to everyone that ordered bulbs! You helped the PTO raise \$406.00

**Ongoing Online Fundraiser** – Mabel's Labels offers personalized labels that are dishwasher, microwave and laundry safe. To see the products that are available and to place an order, go to [www.campaigns.mabelslabels.com](http://www.campaigns.mabelslabels.com) and search for Northfield Elementary School PTO (there is also a link on the PTO website). This is an ongoing fundraiser and you may order at any time.

## **October PTO Meeting Report**

Below are highlights from the October 5<sup>th</sup> PTO meeting. To read the full minutes of the meeting, please visit the PTO website - [www.nespto.org](http://www.nespto.org). Here, you will also find the minutes and agendas from previous meetings in addition to the Principal's Report that is provided by Megan Desmarais at each meeting. (Budget reports are also posted on the PTO website).

- Breinn Robert was appointed Co-Chair
- New updated by-laws were approved
- Principal's Report – chorus for grades 4 & 5 has begun; Stem Rays program to begin next week; Chromebooks newly purchased for use in upper grades; classes are visiting Dickinson Library
- Info for new grant program for Teachers & Staff communicated
- PTO will order new banner for use at events
- Enrichment programs discussed – decided on Tom Ricardi, Birds of Prey; Ed the Wizard; Fire Pond; LCC grants due Oct 17
- PTO will be attending the Finance Committee Meeting on Oct 17; asking the Town to purchase 2 new swing sets for the playground



## **Coming soon...Original Works!**

This unique program provides parents the opportunity to purchase a variety of products featuring their child's very own artwork. These items are great to give as gifts or to keep as mementos, and many are made in the USA. Watch for more info coming home the beginning of November!