



Northfield Elementary PTO

October 2015 Newsletter



Happy Fall!

Thank you to all of those who stopped by the PTO table at Open House night to say hello! We hope you all know that, even though you may not be able to make it to the meetings, you are all considered to be a part of the NES PTO. Our mission is to enrich the educational experience for the school community. Through these events and fundraisers we are hoping to meet the needs of the school – students and teachers – by providing assistance in funding for special events, trips, and activities, helping teachers with special classroom needs through teacher requests, and by supporting families and concentrating on building a strong community.

Next PTO Meeting: Thursday, Nov 12th at 6:30pm in the NES Library: There will be an onsite babysitter so feel free to bring your kids. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Important Dates To Take Note Of:

Sat, Oct 17: NES Fall Festival 3pm-6pm on the school playground

Fri, Oct 23: Pumpkin Carving Night 5pm-7:30pm in the NES Cafeteria

Sat, Oct 24: NES PTO Booth with Bake Sale Table at the Franklin County Pumpkinfest in Turners Falls, 2pm-9pm

Wed, Oct 28: G&B Picture Re-take Day

Fri, Oct 30: NO SCHOOL - Teacher Full Day In-Service Day

NES PTO & Field Trip Transportation Costs

Field trip transportation costs have been rising and this has resulted in an increase in field trip costs to parents. Did you know that the cost for a bus to transport children on a field trip is a minimum of \$300 and can cost up to \$1,200? The current school budget covers half of this cost and the other half is typically paid for by the families taking part in these field trips. At our October meeting, it was decided that the PTO would cover all or part of the parents' half of the transportation cost of the school field trips - up to \$4,000 from our fundraising funds for this school year. Our ability to reduce the price of field trips for NES families is made possible by all the parents and members of the community who support & participate in our fundraisers – THANK YOU!!

NES Fall Festival is on Sat, Oct 17th, 3pm-6pm on the school playground!

Please join us for this fun free family event organized by the NES PTO! Fun activities include a scavenger hunt, pumpkin croquet, pumpkin bowling, catapult baseball, fall art projects, and more! Make your own popcorn trail mix and enjoy pie, apple crisp, coffee, hot chocolate and cider. Bring a picnic dinner and stay to watch an outside showing of "It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown" at 6:30pm.

Pumpkin Carving Night! Fri, Oct 23rd, 5:00-7:30pm, in the NES cafeteria.

We need you to help us carve pumpkins to bring to the Franklin County Pumpkinfest the next day! Last year we carved 173 pumpkins – can you help us beat that number this year? We have the pumpkins and the carving tools – we need you to help us carve them! We will preregister the pumpkins and transport them to the Pumpkinfest for you. If you have any questions please contact Cheryl George (oldwendell@gmail.com, 522-0576)

NES PTO Booth at the Franklin County Pumpkinfest! Sat, Oct 24th, 2pm-9pm.

We will be selling pumpkin themed baked goods - come to the Festival and stop by and support us! Our booth will be located right in front of the Shea Theatre. See the pumpkins carved the night before at Pumpkin Carving Night – we will have them gathered all around our booth. We are looking for donations of baked goods for the sale – if you can contribute contact Cheryl George (oldwendell@gmail.com, 522-0576)

PTO Takes on School Supply Lists Again!

Thanks to your participation in our fundraisers we were able to purchase \$1600 worth of school supplies for NES! Here is some of what we bought in bulk so the school wouldn't need to ask parents to purchase them individually:

- 900 Elmer's Glue Sticks
- 176 packs of Crayola colored pencils
- 72 packs of Crayola crayons
- 2,772 #2 pencils
- 244 packs of Crayola washable markers
- 151 rolls of scotch tape
- 36 cans of Clorox disinfected wipes
- 1,500 9 oz. plastic cups
- 2 reams of college ruled filler paper

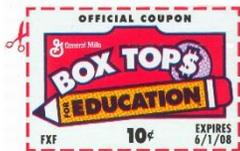
Fall Mums Fundraiser Report

Thank you to everyone who bought Fall Mums from us this year! We sold 230 Mums for a profit of \$653.50!

Box Tops Collection Report

The Fall Box Tops Contest has begun! Here are the results after the September collection...

Pre-K	107
Kindergarten	174
1st Grade	250
2nd Grade	502
3rd Grade	244
4th Grade	447
5th Grade	313
6th Grade	57



That's \$209.40 that you have raised for the school so far! The next collection of Box Tops will be on Thursday, October 29th. The Fall Contest will end on November 30th and the classroom that collected the most Box Tops will win an extra recess!



NES T-shirts available to order online!

We have an online store set up where you can order exactly the style and color of t-shirt or sweatshirt that you like!

Other options to purchase include hats, bags, jackets, sweatshirts, and water bottles! The website is open all year so you can make purchases at any time now and in the future. Any questions contact Jennifer Chabott at 413-824-7319 or chabott@hotmail.com. To view and order items just visit this website:

<https://ssastores.com/store/nas-pto-northfield-ma/>

Check your Student's Backpack!

In order to reduce paper use, one copy of all NES PTO newsletters, announcements and order forms will be given to each family. They will be sent home with your youngest child. Please check your child's backpack to make sure you are receiving all the latest NES news. Contact your student's teacher if you think you are not receiving all NES mailings. As much as possible we will try to have a copy of all information we send home available on the PTO website – nespto.org. We also frequently send out email newsletters with pdf's of the handouts attached. To join the email list just send us an email at northfieldelementarypto@gmail.com.

Check out our NEW website and Facebook Page and Facebook Group!

For more information about PTO events and fundraisers visit our NEW website:

www.nespto.org Our Facebook page is called "Northfield Elementary PTO" – please "like" us to get updates on the happenings of PTO and school events. There is also a Facebook group called "NES Parent Exchange" which is open to all NES family members to exchange info, news, and ask questions – please join us there!

Questions? Suggestions? Contact us!

Email: northfieldelementarypto@gmail.com

*The PTO welcomes everyone and continues to need volunteers for various events, fundraisers, and committees year round. While we are fortunate to have dedicated volunteers who return, we also welcome new ones every year. Our volunteers are mothers, fathers and those who fill those roles. We have a wide range of volunteers who: stay-at-home; work part-time to full-time; have little ones at home, preschoolers, and more. We do strike up friendships and enjoy getting to know one another. Our volunteers range from Pre-K to 6th grade parents, so it's a great chance to get to know parents from other grades you may not have met otherwise. Only you can decide how much time you can give. Even if you can help at just one event or handle one task per year, it would be greatly appreciated. Much of the PTO work can be done from home on your own schedule, or at events at night or weekends. Yes, there is volunteering during the school day if you are able to do so. But no one does it all, so choose what works best for you. Each year, the PTO brings back favorite events and fundraisers, but we also like to try new activities, fundraisers and events. Those new ideas come from volunteers. While we try to plan ahead, it's still only the beginning of the school year and there's still plenty of time to do even more for the students and school this year. **And we want you to be a part of it all!***

