

NES PTO MEETING MINUTES

Northfield Elementary School PTO Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 14, 2016, NES Library

The meeting was called to order by Lara Dubin at 6:30 pm

1. In attendance

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

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the December 10th, 2015 meeting were distributed and approved.

3. Co-Chair's Report

- a. Lara and Cheryl will be attending the PTO Today Expo in Hartford, CT on Tuesday, March 15; anyone else is also welcome to attend
- b. We have received many Thank yous and info about how the teachers are using their funds from the Holiday Raffle Basket.

4. Principal's Report

- a. We will be doing the PARCC test again this year in May. This test will be on the computer. We will not be held accountable for the test scores this Spring. Next year MCAS 2.0 will be implemented. We think it will look a lot like PARCC.
- b. Tom met with the Building Utilization Committee. Four carpets will be replaced. Front entry ways by 6th grade and kindergarten rooms will be redone. A three year plan is being put together to fix or replace all the windows. Brian Noble has been instrumental in getting this committee to move forward on some of these projects.
- c. Tom King will be retiring this Spring, at the end of the school year. He has been in the education profession for 41 years. The closing date for applications for the Principal position is March 1st. Superintendent Ruth Miller wants a hiring committee composed of parents, community members and staff (more info to come).
- d. In the future, The Building Utilization Committee will be working on a plan to put in a paved sidewalk from the back parking lot to the front of the building.

5. Treasurer's Report

- a. See attached budget reports
- b. Lara requested detail of payments made for field trips to be shared in the NES monthly newsletters.
- c. Nolan mentioned that there are some outstanding checks still to be deposited from Meadow Farms and Cheryl stated that she received the Box Tops check, so the numbers for January will change slightly in next month's report.
- d. Deb Potee reminded the PTO that we need to send in the forms in order to get reimbursed for the enrichment activities from last year granted by The Local Cultural Council.
- e. Year-To-Date fundraising totals: we need to raise about \$5,000 more to meet our goal of \$15,000 for the year.

6. Teacher Requests

- a. Tony Streeter requested a new snow gate for the playground for the children. It needs to be safer. Tom thinks this is a town cost. The current orange "gate" is disintegrating. The plan right now is to put up a new orange snow fence.

- b. Hope Phalen, Art Teacher, requesting supplies for her art room, \$197.13 (for paints, sharpies, staplers, etc.) The PTO decided to give her a budget for \$200 so she can purchase the supplies she needs.

7. Fundraising

- a. The Movie Day (at The Garden Cinema) Report - Our profit is \$945 (best year yet). Movie was Alvin and the Chipmunks:
- b. Box Tops - we have received our December payout check from Box Tops for \$1,208.90 (March 4th - November 2nd); did not collect during December due to the Holiday Break, next collection Friday, January 29th, Winter Contest is Dec - Feb
- c. Final check from Meadow Farms profit - received \$529.30 (online profit).
- d. Read-A-Thon: for the month of March. Discussion was had regarding the positives and negatives of this type of fundraiser. We are still interested in having a Read-A-Thon but not as a fundraiser. We could set a minutes goal. Lara had the idea of asking the local bank and businesses to pledge a donation for a certain amount of minutes? It would be a shared community effort.
- e. Hanging Baskets - sell sometime around Mother's Day?
- f. Cheryl brought up the thought of having a Painting night (like a Wine and Canvas) across the street at Cameron's Winery. The PTO would charge \$45 per person and we would get \$10 per person. It was decided that this was a good idea, Cheryl will look into organizing this fundraiser
- g. The Penny Wars - a fundraiser that we could do in the future.
- h. Cheryl will put out a date for a special Fundraising committee meeting to discuss other ideas for the rest of the school year.

8. Events

- a. Family Movie Night – Saturday, January 30th, 5:00pm dinner/pizza, 6:00pm movie. Minions is the voted on movie. A small concession stand will be available. Small packages of treats and popcorn for a quarter. Drinks will also be available.
- b. Bingo night will be held on Friday, March 11th.
- c. Carnival and Fun Run– May 14th is the day that works for the parties involved
- d. Pumpkinfest date has been changed to Saturday, October 29th.

9. Enrichment Programs

- a. Tommy James, Dr. Suess Magic Show – will be scheduled for Thursday, March 17th.
- b. Crime Scene Science – will be scheduled for Wednesday, April 13th. Two assemblies: grades Pre-K - 2 and 3-6.

10. Playground Report

There will be a meeting on January 21st, 6:00pm in the NES Library.

11. Old Business

- a. Labels for Education – Lara will become Labels for Education coordinator until we find a permanent coordinator.

12. New Business

None at this time.

Next Meeting

Thursday, February 11th, 6:30pm, NES Library

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm

Submitted by Carolyn Baskowski, Secretary