

NES PTO MEETING MINUTES

Northfield Elementary School PTO Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 14th, 2016 NES Library

The meeting was called to order by Cheryl George at 6:30 pm

1. In attendance

Cheryl George, Missy Kalinowski, Nolan Kitfield, Carolyn Baskowski, Kelly Gagnon, Tom King, Deb Potee, Lisa Wheeler

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March 14th, 2016 meeting were distributed and approved.

3. Co-Chair's Report

- a. The next principal of NES will be Megan Desmarais
- b. Kelly Gagnon is interested in being Co-Chair next year (official vote at the May meeting)
- c. Next Fundraising Committee Meeting- week of May 23rd (to start planning for next year)

4. Principal's Report

- a. PARCC will start beginning May 2nd for grades 3-6. All students will do a total 7 sessions May 2 - 26.
- b. Tom congratulated us on finding a new principal that seems to be a wonderful fit for NES.
- c. June 13th, Monday, 6pm is 6th grade graduation.
- d. Important upcoming dates: Field Day, Tuesday, June 14th; Last Day of School, Friday, June 17th; School Committee will decide on next year's calendar at next month's meeting

5. Treasurer's Report

- a. see attached budget reports
- b. Kelly is wondering if the change in our status (501c3) will affect the cost of our insurance.

6. Teacher Requests

- a. Lisa Wheeler is requesting a sound system for her classroom. The benefits are many. The current system has lasted 25 years. The cost is around \$1,300. The PTO agreed that we need to fund this and that the money will be taken out of the line items for teacher requests, school supplies and special projects, and the rest of the balance out of assemblies (may be subject to change).
- b. Pre-K is requesting 6 bales of straw and some bags of dirt for the garden area. The PTO agreed to fund this project.

7. Fundraising

- a. Bingo Night - profit \$857
- b. Hubie's Fundraiser report - profit \$100. We only made about \$50, but Hubie's wrote us a check for \$100.
- c. Hanging Flower Baskets - info went home this week, orders due Friday April 29th, orders delivered Friday, May 6th (pick up at school 1:30-6:00pm). Five Acre farm cannot guarantee color choice. Cheryl wants to be able to give people their money back if they don't find colors they want. This year is a test run.
- d. JDRF Walk, email from Kelly Amato (Juvenile, Type 1 Diabetes walk fundraiser). This organization will provide assemblies to educate the school and community. This would not be a PTO event because of our new tax status. However, we can accept donations. The school would earn 10% of the total amount

raised. This could be something that goes district wide. We are thinking that the school nurses should get involved. We will connect Kelly with Kristen.

- e. Tumblers - for teacher appreciation week, Theresa would like to do the tumbler cups for the staff. Extras will be sold at the NES carnival. Agreed to purchase 175, Cheryl will order.

8. Events

- a. Reading Challenge - as of Wednesday, April 6th, there were 213 "books" on the bookshelf. The students have loved it and the display looks great!
- b. Teacher Appreciation Week - Theresa is coordinating. Donations of candy, gift certificates, and items for luncheon are needed.
- c. Spring Carnival & Fun Run - Saturday, May 14th, 9am - 2pm. Next planning meeting is Tuesday, April 26th in the library. The theme for this year is 'Olympic Fun', Kick off assembly on Friday, April 29th

9. Enrichment Programs

- a. Dr. Suess Magic Show was held on March 17th, Crime Scene Science was held on April 13th. Sixth grade teachers are requesting that the PTO funded programs be more geared towards the older students. Tom likes that there's at least one shared assembly for all grades. Can be challenging to find a program for all ages (Pre-K thru 6th). Will be looking into different enrichment programs and asking teachers for input/feedback.

10. Playground Report

- a. Next Playground Meeting, Tuesday April 19th, 6:30pm, Town Hall Senior Center Room
- b. Planning fundraisers - Golf Tournament, Pennies for Playground
- c. Shed - Cheryl emailed Sheds USA and Lamore Lumber and has been researching different possibilities
- d. Metal Fire truck (found by Craig George) has been painted red by Brian Wood and will be placed in the NES playground (Brian donated his services)
- e. Playground gate. Tom has been speaking with Town Administrator Brian Noble and school committee. The gate is the town's responsibility. A new one should be put up this summer.

12. New Business

- a. Administrative Professionals Day, April 27th, \$35 budgeted - gift certificate for The Marina will be purchased by Cheryl.
- b. Nurse's Day, May 6th, \$35 - a gift certificate will be purchased for a restaurant near Sunderland.
- c. School Bus Driver Appreciation - gift certificates to Mim's as per usual. Will give these first week of May.
- d. Concession Stand during baseball games/soccer
Ideas: Popcorn machine, Cocoa Cart, etc. There is some concern over PTO providing this service vs. Northfield Rec. More information is needed.
- e. Bulletin Board outside cafeteria on red wall for PTO. Tom says this is fine to do. Cheryl did some research and found one that comes covered in fabric for \$60 and will order.
- f. Pedestrian crossing sign in crosswalk in front of school - Sign and base is about \$300 plus shipping. Should the PTO make a donation to the police department to purchase a new sign? At the carnival put a jar out for donations towards a new sign. This will also be put in the next NES Newsletter.
- g. Teacherlists.com
This is an online website (we already have account) for teacher supplies. Kelly will look into this further.

Next Meeting

Thursday, May 12th, 6:30pm, NES Library

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm

Submitted by Carolyn Baskowski, Secretary