

May/June 2016 Newsletter

NES 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.

Dear NES Families,

Once again the school year has flown by and the last day of school is within sight. The PTO has accomplished so much this year and it would not have happened without the support of the Teachers & Staff of NES and without the volunteer hours given and donations made of all our wonderful NES Parents and Family Members! We would also like to acknowledge the generous businesses of Northfield and beyond that contributed to our events and fundraisers and helped to make them a success. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!



Reading Challenge Report

On March 17th, Pre-K through 6th Grade embarked on a reading challenge to see how many books could the NES students could read in one month? The answer is 339!! A special "bookcase" made of woodgrain duct tape was created on the wall in the main staircase (thank you Deb Potee & Cheryl George!) on which kids were able to place their "book" (a paper book spine with the title of the book written on it). We hope to make this reading challenge an annual event – each year outdoing the previous!



Announcing our new Co-Chair: Kelly Gagnon

Lara Dubin, current Co-Chair of the NES PTO, is stepping down from the position of Chair/Co-Chair after four consecutive years of serving. Kelly Gagnon was voted in as the new Co-Chair at the May PTO meeting. Kelly will be joining current Co-Chair Cheryl George in the exciting job of guiding the NES PTO onwards!



Save the Date!

Ice Cream Social on Sat, August 27th!

Mark your calendars now – Ice Cream Sundaes on the Playground 1pm-3pm on Sat, August 27th (rain date is Sun, Aug 28). This is a free event for NES students and their friends and families!



Upcoming Events

June 13

6th Grade Graduation, NES Gym, 5:30pm

June 14

NES Field Day

June 17

Last Day of School, 12:15 early release

June 25

Swing for the Kids Golf Tournament, 9am – Northfield Golf Course

August 27

Ice Cream Social, 1-3pm, NES Playground (this is a FREE event!)

August 31

First Day of School for Grades 1-12

Teacher Appreciation Week a Great Success!

Thank you to Theresa Tsipenyuk for once again organizing an incredible week for the NES Teachers & Staff! And a huge THANK YOU to everyone that contributed and helped make this such a successful week!



Contact us: northfieldelementarypto@gmail.com
Visit our webpage: www.nespto.org
Like our Facebook page: Northfield Elementary PTO

Fundraising Report: \$2,233 raised in April & May

Hubie's Restaurant & Tavern Fundraiser: \$100

Mother's Day Flower Basket Fundraiser: \$425

Spring Carnival Fundraiser: \$1,275

Box Tops: \$345.10

AmazonSmile: \$13.76

Target Red Card: \$50

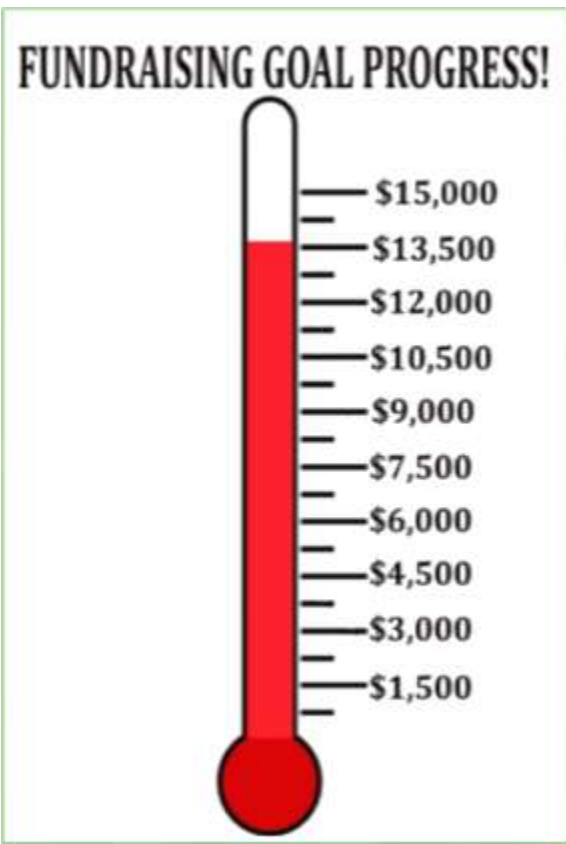
OUR GOAL: \$15,000 by June

We are currently at \$13,533.

Sadly we are \$1,467 short of our goal for the year. This will mean some cuts in spending for next year's budget.

Fun Run Report

On Saturday, May 14th at 9am almost 100 kids lined up in front of the school, ready to run ½ mile as fast as they could right down Main Street to the Northfield IGA and then back to the school. Olivia Hammond, Lexi Pratt, and Kylie Hall sang the National Anthem and then Principal King started the race! Race results are posted on our website: nespto.org. Thank you very much to Robin McKeon for once again organizing this fun event! Robin is looking for someone who can help her out at next year's event who would be interested in organizing future Fun Runs. If you are interested, just email us at northfieldelementarypto@gmail.com. Thank you to all of the great volunteers who helped make this Fun Run event possible!



Spring Carnival Report

On Saturday, May 14th at 9:30 am (right after the Fun Run) the annual Spring Carnival got underway! It was a beautiful, sunny day and a great success! Special Thanks to the Northfield Golf Course for loaning us their two big tents and to Jumping Beans Bounce House Party Rental for lending us the Obstacle Course Bounce House free of charge for the day! The NES PTO would also like to Thank Chief Leighton and the Northfield Police Department for closing the road for the Fun Run, running the speed pitching game for the kids and for helping to cook at the food tent. Thank you to the following people for participating in the Touch-A-Truck and making it fun for the kids: Northfield Police Department, Northfield Fire Department, Northfield EMS, Town of Northfield Highway Department and the Army National Guard. And of course, THANK YOU very much to ALL of the Parent and Teacher volunteers that helped make this a fun event for the kids. Without your help, this event would not have been possible. There were over 80 volunteers who helped run the game booths, set up the tents (in the rain!), sell food, organize the games, and so much more! Your help is greatly appreciated!! THANK YOU!!

Labels For Education Program is ending this summer – send in your labels now!!!

The Labels For Education program is ending! If you have a pile of Labels for Education barcodes sitting around at home please send them into school by June 15th!! We have until July 31st to send in labels for points. Look for the Labels for Education symbol on Campbell Soup Cans and other products! By saving and redeeming the UPCs and beverage caps from participating products we can earn points which we can then redeem for school supplies!



Crime Scene Science Program was at NES in April!

On April 13th Crime Scene Science came to NES to present a 45-minute program that introduced students to the exciting field of the science behind solving crimes. The students were informed of a great mystery, "The Great Cat Caper" and were then asked to put on their thinking caps and become forensic technicians to help solve this dastardly crime! Tools such as fingerprinting, DNA analysis, restoration of a broken window, and making a casting of a footprint were used to solve the mystery. There were two assemblies – one for grades Pre-K - 2 and a second for grades 3 - 6. This enrichment program was made possible thanks to funding from the NES PTO and a grant from the Northfield Cultural Council.



Spring Box Tops Contest Report!

Here's the latest Box Tops collection numbers! Final collection of the year will be June 10th!

Pre-K: 209

K: 179

Grade 1: 402

Grade 2: 313

Grade 3: 371

Grade 4: 332

Grade 5: 176

Grade 6: 63



So far this year, you have raised \$703.80 for your school! Keep clipping those Box Tops!! Please remember that Box Tops do expire and we cannot send in expired Box Tops. Any questions please contact: Missy Kalinowski (225-3049, marleysage@comcast.net), Cheryl George (522-0576, oldwendell@gmail.com)

NES PTO May Meeting Report

Below is a quick summary of the highlights our May 12th PTO meeting. The full minutes of the meeting will be available on our website – www.nespto.org.

- Kelly Gagnon was nominated to the position of Co-Chair starting August 1st, 2016 for a two year term and was officially voted in.
- Discussed using TeacherLists.com to help streamline the classroom supply requests.
- Discussed fundraisers – fundraising committee will meet on May 24th, 6:30pm in the NES Library to review past fundraisers and consider new fundraisers for the next school year
- Discussed successful celebration of Teacher Appreciation Week and upcoming Spring Carnival & Fun Run. Community Tag Sale will happen on June 4th. Back to School Ice Cream Social tentatively scheduled for Sat, August 27th.
- Discussed plans for playground improvements to happen over the summer. The Fire Truck has been painted and will be installed, the stump walk will be installed.
- Idea of a concession stand at the baseball games held at the school was discussed. All proceeds from this stand would benefit the playground project. Cheryl George will attend a Board of Health meeting to apply for a seasonal food permit
- Our new incoming Principal, Megan Desmarais, attended the meeting and was welcomed by the PTO.

Help out the PTO!

Coca-Cola Rewards

Save your bottle caps and box flaps from your Coca-Cola products! They have a rewards number that you enter online and then you can donate the points to our school! You can enter them yourself at mycokerewards.com or send them in to the PTO and we will enter them for you!

Stop & Shop A+ Rewards

Earn cash for NES when you shop! Designate NES as your school by going to: www.stopandshop.com/aplus

Our school # is 05453



Playground Improvement Meeting Report

The Playground Improvement Committee met on April 19th, May 25th, and May 31st to continue work on several improvement plans for the NES Playground. We are working towards finalizing the plan to replace the current, outdated and not-to-code structures that are on the playground right now. Structures that need replacing are the Pre-K/K & Big Kid structures, the swingsets, and the zipline structures. The structure known as the "Spider" (the big climbing geodesic dome in the back) is still in good shape and up to code and will stay! Projects we would like to get done this summer include installing a refurbished Fire Truck rider for the Pre-K/K area and installing a Stump Walk. We are also researching what type of playground musical instrument to install next to expand the Music Garden area of the playground. Current members of the Playground Improvement Committee are: Cheryl George, Kelly Gagnon, Lara Dubin, Missy Kalinowski, Deb Potee, Joe Stacy, and Stacy Quinn. If you would like to join the Playground Improvement Committee, just send an email to northfieldelementarypto@gmail.com. It would be great to have more members!



Example of a Stump Walk



Fire Truck Rider

ONGOING & UPCOMING PLAYGROUND FUNDRAISERS:

Pennies for the Playground: Donate your loose change to a good cause! There is a big water cooler jug in the school next to the office that is the coin collection point and every classroom has a smaller jug. Send in your pennies, dimes, nickels, and quarters with your kids and let them fill the jug!

Swing for the Kids Golf Tournament: Saturday, June 25th at the Northfield Golf Course
This will be a 4 Person Scramble Best Ball Tournament! More information is available on the PTO website www.nespto.org. Any questions, please contact Cheryl George (413-522-0576, oldwendell@gmail.com).



Proposed new Pre-K & K Structure for ages 2-5



Proposed new Play Structure for ages 5-12

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Like our Facebook page: Northfield Elementary PTO