



PTA Meeting Minutes

PTA: North Side Elementary

Date: September 27, 2017

Time: 7:00pm-8:15pm

I. President's Welcome

- Jen Anson welcomed and asked members to sign in to the meeting. There were 24 members in attendance including: Kristina Zabady, Lindsay Moawad, Bethany Goodyear, Katie Gephart, Nykkia Benkovic, Paul Lieko, Ronald Valentin, Carrie Lepore, Kimberly Whitehurst, Holly Hodgson, Kristyn Beeman, Sarah Box, Deanna Paalla, Alison Simpson, Rebecca Robinson, Dipankar Sharma, Meena Sharma, Matthew Banks, Amanda Dulovich, Micki Freedman, Karina Gonzalez and Patti Weidt. Janelle Heller, and Michelle Heinbaugh. 5 PTA Officers were in attendance including: Jennifer Anson, Jennifer Andrews, Jamie Tum, Kristen Hanford, and Melissa Kurmakov.
- Jen Anson Introduced the new officers and explained their roles. Bylaws are currently being amended. All members received an updated PTA calendar for reference.
- Jen Anson discussed NS Pride T-shirt Distribution and Sponsorship Opportunities
 - To date, all new students have received their NS Pride shirts.
 - The PTA's goal is to distribute new shirts to students every two years.
 - Jen Anson discussed the idea of replacing the KidStuff book fundraiser with increased t-shirt sponsorship next year. Members are encouraged to consider assisting with finding sponsors.

II. Jen Anson awarded anyone who had any initial questions or topics of discussion the opportunity to speak at the beginning of the meeting. No topics were brought up.

III. Principal's Comments / Teachers Remarks

- Notes from Principal Sarah Box
 - Feedback from new Back to School Night format was positive and plan is to continue next year with this format.
 - PBIS coming up on October 5th
 1. An assembly is coming up on Friday 9/29 for the students to get them excited for PBIS. The assembly will focus on the "Zones of Regulation" which is a program used to help the students talk about their feelings and to provide them with the tools to get out of those feelings. The teacher rock band "Well Behaved Wild Things" will be performing.
 2. PBIS Night will feature the school book fair, a visit from Zoo America, and pizza. Pizza is free for students and \$1 for all others. Students are encouraged to dress like a cowboy to fit in with the "Wild West" theme of the book fair.

- Mrs. Zabady spoke regarding Reflections and Girls on the Run.

Reflections

1. Students have an opportunity for kids to do a project to go along with the Reflections “Within Reach” theme. Entries are due by Nov 20. Mrs Zabady requested that the PTA look at the budget to see if an assembly can be hosted.

- Girls on the Run

1. The program’s curriculum is for 3-5 grade girls to promote positive self-esteem and to learn how to deal with bullies. Over the course of the program, the girls train to run a 5k which will be held in May. Practices are 4:05 pm-5:30pm and volunteers are needed. Three coaches are needed per team, and the goal is to have two teams of up to 20 participants. Anyone who is interested can contact Mrs. Zabady. Registration is due in December for the spring, and the season begins in February.

- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May. Jamie Tum approved the minutes and Micki Freedman seconded the motion.
- V. Membership Report- Secretary and Director of Membership- Jennifer Andrews reported that there are currently 121 members. We are always accepting new members. You must be a member to be a committee chair, have a say in the decision-making process, and vote. Membership cards have not gone out yet.
- VI. Budget Report- Treasurer- Kristen Hanford reported that we have an estimated current balance of \$7,807.61 after outstanding checks and liabilities.
- VII. Communications Report- Director of Communications- Jamie Tum reviewed the new Classroom Communication Coordinator system. The goal of the system is to give a personal, per classroom voice for the PTA to reach parents. Some teachers still have not assigned a parent to be the Classroom Communication Coordinator. Mrs. Zabady reported that some teachers were confused by the papers that were sent home. Mrs Box suggested that at conferences, teachers can remind parents to return their email communication consent forms.
- VIII. Website- Janelle Heller reported that the website is up and welcomes suggestions and updates.
- IX. Director of Events and Volunteers- Melissa Kurmakov explained that we will now be using Google Drive to make file sharing and access easier for all committee chairs. Melissa will send an email to all committee chairs which will provide access to the appropriate files for their committee. She encouraged anyone who is currently or had previously chaired a committee to upload any available files from years past to help build a database of references.
- X. Past Events and/or Programs Report
 - Ice Cream Social: Jen Anson
 - Positive feedback and well attended
 - Save Around Books: Kristen Hanford
 - We are currently at \$3,100 profit of our \$4,000 goal. Some books still have not been returned. This year, the top seller for each grade earns a gift card.
 - Spirit Wear: Alison Simpson

- The Spirit Wear free shipping sale is happening now. Alison would like to make people more aware later in year through the website and social media that it is a year long sale.
- Special Needs Event
 - Patti Weidt reported that she received positive feedback from the the event and that local families were able to be connected with programs and services. She is available as a contact for anyone else who might need more information.

XI. Upcoming Events

- Race for Education: Micki Freedman
 - Micki explained that Race for Education is the PTA's largest fundraiser. The biggest year brought in \$35,000. This year, we are switching from hand-written notes to an online format for efficiency. The platform that will be used is called 99 Pledges. A \$15,000 goal has been set, which would require \$30 per student to be raised. Students may still collect donations via hardcopy with cash or check. Kickoff will be October 13th and will end the third week of November. The run will be held on November 17th. There will be incentives for the winning class, groups, and individuals. If the goal is met, the school will have a spirit day where Mrs. Box will have green hair and students will have the opportunity to sill string their teacher.
- Fall Pictures: Alison Simpson
 - Alison reported that volunteers will be needed. Even though Lifetouch is able to staff picture, the school gets more money the less staff the picture company needs to send.
- Fall Book Fair: Jen Anson
 - Jen Anson reported that this year the budget is raised to \$7.99 per kid for a free book. She explained that we take Scholastic dollars instead of cash.
- Dudes & Donuts: Micki Freedman
 - This year Dudes and Donuts will be held on October 5 and 6. Volunteers are needed. The book fair will be open during the event.
- Super Male Readers: Chaired by Colleen DeFrank (not present at meeting)
 - There are still a few spots left for readers for 4th and 5th grade classes. There was some miscommunication about whether or not readers would need volunteer badges. Mrs. Box confirmed that they will need badges. Mrs. Box will follow up with an email.
- Spirit Days: Michelle Heinbaugh
 - There are currently 5 spirit events scheduled including Sweet Frog, Chipotle, Harrisburg Senators, Noodles & Co, and Chuck E Cheese. Noodles & Co will need volunteers for door greeters. Mrs. Zabady will send an email to teachers to try to get them to sign up to be greeters. Michelle Heinbaugh will follow up with Chuck E Cheese to see if the mascot can visit and/or give out tickets to

encourage participation. Moving forward, fundraiser days will be spirit days at school so kids can wear their green North Side shirts and not have to change clothes after school. Advertising efforts will include mentions at morning announcements and signs in the car rider lines. Michelle is looking for additional committee co-chairs for Bingo.

- Teacher Conferences- Kristyn Beeman will be chairing
 - Time to Sign up will be going out soon
- 5th Grade Party
 - There currently is not a committee chair. Volunteers are welcome. The goal this year is to host the party off-site to offer the students something different and to help keep the experience more consistent from year to year.

XII. Jen Anson closed the meeting with a review for parents who are new to the PTA of additional things the PTA pays for, beyond what was mentioned in detail at this meeting.

- Send all kids on a field trip. \$8 per child is budgeted, but this year we will ask parents to contribute \$5/kid to help offset the cost.
- AgLab- outdoor science lab
- June Jubilee and Ice Cream Social
- Free books at the book fair
- Rollerskating
- 5th grade party
- Gives teachers who join PTA \$50
- Teacher Appreciation Week & lunch conferences
- Technology purchases
- The school population is now at 654 students so more supplies are needed.

XIII. The next PTA meeting will be held on November 15, 2017 at 7pm.

Prepared by Jennifer Andrews

Recording Secretary