

NPS PTO Meeting Minutes
November 30, 2015

Attendance: Marilyn Corrigan, Lea Highcove, Christine Hultquist, Denise Corson, Eileen Tobin, Brenda Konopelko, Elizabeth McKanna, Courtney McCourt, Marianne Kirby

Official PTO Business

- A. **Call to Order:** 7:08 PM
- B. **Review of Minutes:** reviewed and all members present unanimously accepted after a motion by Christine Hultquist and seconded by Lea Highcove.
- C. **Treasurer's Report:** reviewed and all members present unanimously accepted after a motion by Denise Corson and seconded by Christine Hultquist.
- D. **Request for Funds:** None

Committee Updates

- A. **Book Fair-**Very successful. Goal was \$2500 and we made around \$3200. Bogo Book Fair will be in the spring, although not a big money maker it's great for the kids.
- B. **Box Tops-** No report.
- C. **Teacher Liaison-** Elizabeth McKanna has been actively trying to get teachers involved with the PTO activities through posting flyers, emails, staff notes and information in the daily bulletin.
- D. **Holiday Gift Shop-**New location for the gifts shop will be in the old FACS room, which is on the way to the cafeteria so more student traffic. Adult volunteers can use Sign up Genius to volunteer the week of Dec7th-11th still looking for more adult volunteers. There will be no viewing only days, all days kids can purchase Christmas gifts. This was our biggest fundraiser last year. Lea will also have the Gift Shop open an hour before the 12/10/15 Winter Concert.
- E. **Investment in Youth-** Christine stated that this is the last year that Westerly Credit Union will be doing this exact program, not sure if there will be any kind of replacement. Christine discussed getting more 6th Graders involved. Some suggestions: girl scouts, boy scouts, booster club, robotics and Marianne stated she would meet with the 6th grade teachers to discuss.
- F. **Fundraiser Review-** the Gift Card Program will only be at Christmas this year; remaining orders will be on the 4th and 11th. Denise looked into the suggestion on a Five Guy Fundraiser. Denise spoke with the manager and he stated that we could pick a day between Monday-Thursday, from 5-8PM, we can 10% of proceeds. We do not have to show a flyer at the register, we automatically get 10% of all sales. The PTO thought will so much going on right now, we would do the event next year, possibly 2/11/15.
- G. **Bulletin Board** – still looking for an official chair, but Lorien Murray has decorated it..
- H. **Soda machine** – Dorothy Mullen and Eileen Harris.
- I. **Event's Coordinator** – still looking for a chair.

PTO Topics

- A. **Reviewing Survey Results-**
 - (1) How do you think the NPS PTO can best support the school?
 - Number one answer was coordinating more social events throughout the year- PTO discussed that there is a Sock Hop on December 11th, but other suggestions were a movie night either at the school or at South County Commons, Bowling Night, Teambuilding sleep over at the school, more afterschool social time possible utilizing the late bus, i.e. afterschool recess/free play, board games in cafeteria, more afterschool programs for arts.

Before school continue open gym and yoga classes. Also, more activities like the dodge ball tournament!

- Number two answer was providing more parental/communication for families and staff on a regular basis. Marianne discussed that there is a school improvement team that works on positive reinforcement right from the beginning of the year and encouraging more communication between teachers and parents. Also, NPS will have a Facebook page to help spread all the good stuff we do!!
- (2) How would you like to see the PTO Fundraising money used that will be raised during the year?
- Number one answer was to upgrade playground with new equipment and outdoor recreational area. The PTO will form a committee with the new grounds supervisor Steve Gormley and the student council to come up with age appropriate equipment.
 - Number two answer was increase teacher's annual stipend for supplies from \$25 to \$50. Since many teachers do not take advantage of this benefit, this would be something we can do if wanted.
 - The last choices for spending funds is on the Pier School Sign and reducing the cost of yearbooks.
- (3) Please feel free to share any thoughts, comments, ideas, or suggestions that you feel can make the Pier School the best it can be for your child/family.
- Some comments –more recess, more social events especially for the 5th graders, better playground equipment, more communication of important events and happenings.
- (4) How do you like to receive information from the NPS PTO?
- Number one answer was the List Serv.
- B. **PTO Insurance** – the PTO is not covered by the school insurance. NHS purchased General Liability for all three schools to be covered for approximately \$100 per school. NPS can look into doing its own insurance but at least for now it's covered, also the PTO must purchase Officer's Liability to protect the Officers in the PTO.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted By,

Denise Corson