

PTO MEETING MINUTES

March 5, 2014

Officers Present: President: Heather Pettis VP: Tara Mickela, Asst. Treasurer: Jessica Patten, Secretary: Meghan Wyman, Volunteer Coordinator: Teresa Hill, Principal: George Shea.

Secretary's Report – Meghan Wyman

Minutes from the January 2014 (February meeting was cancelled due to snow) meeting were reviewed and approved.

President's Report – Heather Pettis

Committee Updates

Playground – group of about 12 people working towards design and fundraising for playground for the back of the school. Project needs to run through the PTO because of financing. Need approval for funds to run through a second account – approval given.

PEP- still some spaces in a few of the clubs. So far 69 kids are enrolled. Any questions? Direct them to Elizabeth Cross.

Portsmouth Neuropsychology Center Talks – survey results gave a few topics of interest. The topic with the most interest had to do with anxiety and emotional health with kids.

Newburyport Five Cent Savings Bank – Remember they are running a promotion that will give \$ to PTO. They have upped the amount to \$100 (in two installments of \$50)

Elections – Upcoming need for VP, assistant treasurer and someone to shadow volunteer coordinator – Also will need a newsletter "checker" position. Will plan to hold election at the May meeting.

Principal's Report – George Shea

Thanks to parent and PTO for involvement during this busy time!

Music in Our School Month – Lots of events coming up...

Artist in Residence – Northeast Passages will be coming in to give students the experience of using a wheelchair in PE – May 9-16? Gary the Clown is also coming right before April Vacation. Also looking to work with PortCity Makerspace to see what connections they can have with them.

Velokids – mountain biking program. Will be running a 6 week program in the spring. Will bring bikes and teach students riding and racing skills. Looking for a couple of "coaches" that might want to ride bikes with kids in the afternoon. Will be run partially through MC3.

NECAP results – Student results will be coming home tomorrow. This is the last time they will be sent out as these are the final NECAPs before the new Smarter Balance assessment associated with Common Core. Results were good overall – they are not analyzing the results as closely as they are the final year of the testing. Any more specific questions – ask Mr. Shea.

Foyer TV – Climate Committee has worked to have a TV in foyer to share announcements and pictures available to communicate with people in the front hallway. A large lightning bolt will also be decorating the lobby soon.

Introduced Jeff Martell – Special Education coordinator for NFS and the Portsmouth Middle School. Offered any services he can help with. Looking to help make sure the transition from 5th grade to the middle school is a smooth one.

30 Day Review – Heather Pettis

Ice Cream Social – Jan 30 – Raised \$325 from selling water, donations and the 50/50 raffle.

Valentine's Day Kisses – Feb 14 Made \$333 - nice messages sent to each other!

Spaghetti Dinner – Mar 4 – Was fun! Lots of thanks to all involved! \$712 dollars raised. Any feedback, don't hesitate to let people know.

Treasurer's Report – Jessica Patten

Budget Review - report reviewed.

60 Day Look Forward – Tara Mickela

Maple Syrup Project – ongoing – Randy Whisler - sign up for pre-ordering syrup. Collected over Feb. vacation. Already has ½ gallon of syrup. Norwegian Maples are fine to tap too!

Yankee Candle – Mar 6 – Apr 1 – Kara Jolly – order forms are going home tomorrow. Will sell through April 1.

Talent Show – March 21 – Pam Shore - going to be great! Auditions are 3/11 & 3/12. Always looking for volunteers to sit with kids that night to help in between acts. 5th graders can perform in finale even if they

Dance – April 5 – Dy Kozikowski will be at VFW. 7:30 – 80s Theme – adults only. Can buy tickets through the PTO website (www.nfspto.org) or contact Dy for tickets. \$10 ahead of time or \$15 at the door. Will do Volunteer Spot for people to help.

Lawn Fete – June 11 – Planning needs to begin soon! Need people to run each group - games, food, raffles, volunteers...

Words – June - Teresa Hill – would like to put this together earlier than it has gone out in the past.

Wallis Sands Half Marathon – May 4 – Heather Pettis – We will get \$300. Then runners will vote on best water stop and winner of best water stop will get an additional \$300.

Other:

National Pi Day – prizes to kids that memorize the most digits of Pi in 3rd – 5th grade. The current digit record at NFS is 88!

Spelling Bee – Congratulations to the NFS representative! Thanks to Tara Mickela for coaching the kids!

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Meeting : April 2nd