

## PTO MEETING MINUTES

May 7, 2014

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

### Secretary's Report – Meghan Wyman

Minutes from the April 2 meeting were reviewed and approved.

### Guest Speaker

**New Heights** - Wayne came to fill us in about the summer program – 3 different parts STEM, Adventure, available as individual weeks, days – payment is on sliding scale, scholarships are also available. More information was handed out – or online <http://www.newheightsonline.org/>

### President's Report – Heather Pettis

**Elections – Current Nominations:** President – Tara Kennedy, VP – Elizabeth Cross, Assistant Treasurer – Diana Frye, Volunteer Coordinator – no current nomination... Votes will take place at the June meeting. Still looking for a volunteer coordinator – position includes emailing, using Volunteer Spot to help communicate what volunteer opportunities we have and how people can help fill those spots, talking to families on Open House night, K Registration... Position can be very flexible. If you are interested or know someone who would be a good fit, please let us know. Teresa would also help fill in anyone interested.

### Committee Updates

Greening Committee – looking for a new committee chair.

Wellness Committee - fruits and veggies are still going on! Join the crew on Tuesday or Thursday mornings.

Playground – just met prior to PTO meeting. Went through history and basis for why the project is going on. Have raised \$36,000 – half of the goal amount of \$72,000 the committee is hoping to raise. Please let the committee know if you have a business connection that might be interested in donating.

**Grants Updates** - \$500 grant to help offset the cost of printing NFS Words that comes out at the end of the school year. Submitted a grant to Newburyport Five Cents Savings Bank – hoping to get money for ESchool Field Trip. Heather is working with Ms. Smith to get a grant to help with the field trip to the Portland Symphony trip. Any ideas? Please pass them on.

### Principal's Report – George Shea

May is a busy month at NFS

**Science NECAPs** – Grade 4 – starts Friday will remain even though LA and Math NECAPs will be replaced with Common Core assessments.

**Middle School Mtg** – May 29<sup>th</sup> – for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade parents for info about transition into 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Artist in Residence** – North East Passages – disability awareness during PE class. Students will use wheelchairs during PE.

**Spring Student Showcase** – June 12<sup>th</sup> – exhibition night to share student work.

**Last Day of School** – June 19<sup>th</sup> for students – probably a ½ day?

### 30 Day Review – Heather Pettis

**Yankee Candle** – great success!

**Maple Syrup Project** – still a few bottles of syrup is left to sell! Fifth graders were able to save some to have some syrup at their 5<sup>th</sup> grade breakfast. Great community based project!

**80s Dance** – so much fun! Thanks to Dy and DJ Koz! Share any new ideas for upcoming themes? One suggestion – how about a “Decades Dance” ?

**Wallis Sands Half Marathon** – it was awesome. Thanks to all that came out and volunteered! We went from 2 volunteers the night before to 30 volunteers that day!

**Prof. Admin Day / Nurses Day** – flowers were delivered to Mrs. Lister and Nurse Barbara this week to thank them for all that they do for NFS!

### Treasurer's Report – Jessica Patten

**Budget Review** – reviewed and explained. Question was raised if we should look at fundraising from year to year to see how different fundraisers have been done over the years.

### 60 Day Look Forward – Tara Mickela

**Staff Appreciation Week** - celebrating and thanking teachers this week. Thanks to all for donations and help from community!

**Fun Pass** – due by the end of this week.

**Kids Kreations** – Ran it again – will be coming home again.

**Kindergarten Registration** – next Thursday – 5/15 – seems like a smaller group of K students. There is a sign up on Volunteer Spot for people to come help greet incoming families and help with tours.

**Portsmouth Neuropsychology talk** – next Thursday night – 5/15 – topic is based on survey sent out to the school. Recognizing and decreasing anxiety in kids- hour long presentation and discussion. Child care will be offered.

**Lawn Fete** – solicited suggestions for games – dunking booth is a popular suggestion. Will ask for lots of volunteers soon. Send in any small, unbroken toys for prizes. Starting to organize food for the event too. Looking for donations for raffle baskets. Spirit wear will be for sale.

**Words** – anyone interested in helping to scan work, contact Teresa.

**Meeting Adjourned.**

**Next Meeting : June 4<sup>th</sup> 7-8pm End of the Year PTO celebration at Pettis House!**