

Northpoint PTO Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2009

Welcome and Introductions

Amy Hennen, PTO President, welcomed everyone to the third Northpoint PTO meeting of the 2009-2010 school year and thanked everyone for being flexible on changing the day of the meeting! Those in attendance approved the October meeting minutes.

Presentations

Northpoint 3rd grade teachers

The 3rd grade teachers gave a presentation on a new district-wide program called Study Island. Study Island is accessed via the internet (www.studyisland.com). The intent of the program is to prepare students for the mastery of state testing. The goal is for students to pass the concepts by the end of the school year.

Each student will receive a username and password, which will be sent home, so that the student can work on this at home as well as at school. Teachers can create class pages with notes and what the students should be working on, and they can individualize student settings.

There are 3 modes on the website, test mode, game mode and printable worksheet format. In test mode, the students will be asked questions. In game mode, the students will be asked the same questions as in test mode but they will be allowed to play the game that they have chosen after they have answered a certain number of questions correct.

Jodi Ruch, School Board Member

Jodi reminded everyone to please vote tomorrow for the 2 levy questions and 4 open school board seats. The polls are open from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm.

Mr. Callahan, Northpoint Principal

Mr. Callahan thanked Kelly Rademacher and Laura Dickinson for the work that they did for the family fun night. The event was a great success and a lot of fun!

Mr. Callahan reminded everyone to vote tomorrow.

There will be a staff in-service on Friday. Topics that will be discussed are:

- college readiness from a K-3 standpoint
- creating and sustaining a professional environment
- responding to a change in demographics (understanding family's needs)
- common K-3 language (what is standard in classrooms)

Last week over 30 teachers observed other teachers. They went in pairs and reflected on their learning after. This is an example of professional learning that is done to help teachers help the students.

Alesha Blom and Jean Nolby, PTO staff liasons

Mrs. Blom and Mrs. Nolby reported that they asked the staff for feedback on the fall fundraiser, and the feedback was that it was well organized and well run.

They thanked everyone for providing the conference meals.

Dr. Rahn, School Psychologist

Dr. Rahn reported that she is looking for people to volunteer as reading coaches. These are parents or community members who volunteer to work on reading 1:1 with students. The student has a book that they provide, and they read it to the coach. Teachers identify which students can use the reinforcement. Talk to Dr. Rahn if you have questions or if you would like to help. Any amount of time you can spend on this is appreciated!

Treasurer's Report

Kelly Rademacher, PTO Treasurer, reported that there has been an increase in the budget for reading night from \$500 to \$1000. This is necessary to be able to purchase a book for every student to take home from reading night.

iPod Touch Project Grant Proposal, Andrew Sinko

Mr. Sinko reported that he submitted a grant request to the Panther Foundation to purchase 26 iTouches for 1st and 2nd grade classrooms to share. The grant proposal was approved. The Northpoint PTO approved \$200 to help pay for protective cases, screen covers and headphones that can easily be cleaned.

The purpose of having these in the classrooms is to integrate technology into the classroom, engage students and support learning.

February meeting date change

The date that the February PTO meeting was originally scheduled on is a caucus night, so the meeting has been changed to Monday, February 8 at 6:30 pm.

Fall fundraiser report

Pam Wellen, PTO Secretary, reported that the fall fundraiser raised a total of \$21,573.54.

It was a unanimous decision by those in attendance to do a pledge-based fundraiser again next year. Someone made a comment that the bracelets were a great idea.

Activities Update

Chair appreciation

Thank yous were extended to the following people who have chaired the following activities:

- Kelly Rademacher, family fun night
- Laura Dickinson, family fun night
- Shaun Olson, conference meals
- Rachelle Hart, fall book fair

- Julie Comer, fall book fair

Northpoint apparel

Jen Edlund, PTO Vice President, reported that one more order form will be sent home with students at the end of November and will be due back at the beginning of December. Items ordered at this time will be in before the Christmas holiday.

Non-traditional volunteer opportunities

Jen Edlund will hold a meeting in November or December for anyone interested in participating. This is opportunity to volunteer during non-school times. Watch for further information.

Fundraiser

Pam Wellen reported that the fundraiser was a huge success, and that the fun run was rescheduled for Wednesday, October 7 due to rain.

November coat/hat/mitten drive

The coat/hat/mitten drive will take place the week of November 23-25. Please have your student bring in new or gently used (clean) items. These items will be collected for the school and the community.

Vision and hearing screenings

Pam Wellen reported that vision and hearing screenings will take place the week of November 16-20. Please contact Pam at pwellen@att.net if you are interested in volunteering.

January movie night

January movie night will be held on January 22. Jessica Friedman has volunteered to chair this event. The movie will possibly be shown in 2 locations, the gym and the cafeteria.

Reading night

Amy Wheaton and Whitney Woodford reported that last year the left over books from reading night were used for a free book walk game at the carnival. It was suggested to contact someone at Target to find out if they will donate items for this event.

February conference meals

Shaun Olson will chair the spring conference meals.

Book fair

Barnes & Noble hold book fairs at the stores with a portion of the profit going back to a school, but this is not as profitable as holding a book fair at school. Amy Hennen is continuing to look into book fair options. If you have any ideas or information, please contact Amy at amylhennen@yahoo.com.

Open microphone

No questions or comments.

****NEXT PTO MEETING IS ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1 AT 6:30****