

Northpoint Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes Media Center October 6, 2008

Introductions

We had another good turn out; 35 in attendance.

Approval of September Minutes

September Meeting Minutes were available on each table and are also available at www.springlakeparkschools.org under the PTO link. September Meeting Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Tracy Potratz, PTO treasurer gave a brief update. Our T-shirt sales thus far are \$784.

Presentations

Physical Education – Ben Antony

Mr. Antony discussed that the PE department is incorporating overall health into Physical Education this year. Mrs. Flatten is a part time PE teacher here this year. They will be discussing healthy food and lifestyle choices. The PE dept is also getting vocab words and math problems from teachers to include these during their PE periods.

There has been a huge demand for Dance, Dance Revolution. This is a rental video game that gets kids active and can be done with small groups. The department is hoping to get this here at Northpoint.

The mileage club will be done this spring. This is a time when children can choose to walk during recess and earn tokens to receive prizes such as water bottles, etc.

2nd Grade Teachers

Our second grade teachers talked about how they are increasing their student's exposure to writing. Andrew Sinko presented the writing process that they teach to students, which includes an opportunity to read their story to their classmates, gather feedback and make changes as needed. 2nd grade teachers meet together to help teachers better equip their students. This time is called PLC's (professional learning committees).

AnneMarie Klimek, Panther Foundation

The Panther Foundation has awarded 25 \$50,000 grants. This is successful due to parents and teachers. There are 16 seats on the foundation with a few open each year. The foundation is always looking for fresh ideas. Their Grand Gala will be

in February 2009. There are membership opportunities on our district website.

John Stroebel, School Board Member

Construction of buildings within the district is going as planned. The district website has information about the continued improvement to the district. That website is www.springlakeparkschools.org. There will be a community meeting here at Northpoint just prior to our PTO meeting on November 10th at 6p.m.

Mike Callahan, Northpoint Principal

Mr. Callahan recognized the extra miles staff is taking to share their ideas with one another to get the best practice to their students. The star student award is to create excitement to work toward the attributes of learning, attitude, teamwork, respect and responsibility. When staff sees a child using these attributes their name is written down (with their teacher's name) and put it into the jar in the front office. Those stars that are chosen will be hung in the display case weekly. The stars that are chosen get pizza with Mr. Callahan.

A Northpoint Dedication will be on Tuesday, October 14th at 10 a.m. in the gymnasium. A time capsule will be made that day. There will be a video of how the school was constructed from groundbreaking to completion. An all school picture of students and staff will be at 10:45 a.m.

October 21st there will be a Community Open House/Dedication (from the district standpoint). This will be from 5:30-8 p.m. There will be a dedication program and refreshments.

Mike discussed how wisely teacher's time is used when they are off for early release and conference days. They plan to talk about the school's vision and making smart goals that are result driven. They will also be exposed to new software called Discovery Atomic Learning during this time.

Activities Update

Campbell's Soup Labels

The PTO plans to use the money raised thus far for a new paper cutter for the PTO work room.

Target's taking Charge of Education

We have raised \$467 from 26 individuals who have signed on to indicate Northpoint on their Target Redcard. There is a link on the PTO website to indicate Northpoint on your Target Redcard.

Verizon

We are awaiting final paperwork, but Verizon has agreed to give us \$25 for every new contract or renewal that indicates Northpoint.

Bookfair: October 13-15th

The bookfair will be set up in the gym. There will be a letter coming home this week giving details of the bookfair.

Conference Meals: October 13-15th

Jacque Curran is heading up the conference meals. All whom are helping should have received an email or call from her. These meals are provided to teachers during their conference times.

Vision/Hearing Screening: October 20-23

Pam Wellen is heading this up. If you have signed up for this service you will receive an email or call from her. There will be training for the screening.

Fundraiser Information, Fall Family Event: November 20th

Rhonda Suchy indicated that Dean-o-Mite will be our DJ at the Fall Party during the time of Fundraiser Pickup. October 8th volunteers will be counting money and going through Fundraising details.

School Supply Kits

Molly Sheedlo brought a kit that had all the needed school supplies put together by Staples. This service can be done specifically to teacher's lists. A kindergarten kit is \$28 and 3rd grade kit was priced at \$38. Molly did price this service and it seemed to be within \$8-10 of doing this on your own. It was brought up that the Chip Shoppe also provides this service, as well as, Target and Wal-Mart. Some did respond saying they would not use this service. It was also brought up that it would be a good way to donate a box for children in need. Molly will look into this service after hearing a good response that some would be interested in using this if it was available.

Open Microphone

Rachelle Hart had a question if the book fair will be in the way of the school dedication on October 14th? Mike Callahan answered saying the custodians will move the bookfair materials and it will not be a problem.

Dina Sells wondered if a family gave a direct donation, rather than through the fundraiser, if that money would be totaled to their class? Yes, that money will be directly added to that child's class total. Dina also asked if the all school dedication picture that will be taken on October 14th will be available for purchase. Mike Callahan explained that it will be available for purchase.

Melissa Kloubec wondered if Cindy McKay would come and talk here at a future PTO meeting. Becky wanted to know what is the best way to communicate; by email or phone. Mike did respond that Cindy has spoke at past PTO meetings and that she would probably enjoy doing that at one of our future PTO meetings.

Adjournment

Our next PTO meeting is November 10th at 6:30 p.m.