

## Northpoint PTO Meeting

Monday, April 11, 2016

The Northpoint PTO meeting was held on Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup> in the library with a slight delay in the start time as the meeting followed Dr. Ronneberg's bond referendum update to parents. The meeting was attended by several parents, Principal Judi Kahoun, Teacher Liaison Kevin Koch and Mari Dahlke, PTO President Julie Jeppson, PTO Vice President Andy Kuempel, PTO Treasurer Dedriann Oberg, PTO Volunteer Coordinator Kim Porter and PTO Secretary Laura Jacobsen were all in attendance.

The abbreviated agenda and meeting proceeded as follows:

### Introductions

- PTO President Julie Jeppson commenced the meeting at approximately 6:50 pm.

### Approval of the Minutes

- PTO Secretary circulated a copy of the March minutes and the attendees were provided time to review. President Jeppson called and concluded a motion to approve.

### Treasurer's Report

- PTO Treasurer Dedriann Oberg indicated that there were no changes to the budget from the March PTO meeting outside of \$1,470 in expense related to the upcoming Spring Carnival.

### Presentations

- 2014-15 Grant Recipients
  - Kevin Koch (2nd Grade): Mr. Koch's grant was STEM (science and math) related with a focus on nature. The grant learning targets outlined for the students include the ability to identify a need or a problem and to construct an object to meet the need or solve a problem. Purchases were made to support student activities centered around Biomimicry, a concept that imitates elements of nature for the purpose of solving complex human problems. After viewing several examples (i.e. how a thistle is like Velcro), students studied various animal traits and tried to identify how they help solve human problems. In addition, students learned about the concept of nature's (Fibonacci) numbering system and how they appear everywhere from the leaf arrangement in plants, to the pattern of the florets of a flower, the bracts of a pinecone. Students then engaged in an activity to explore how changes in climate effect tree growth by viewing different tree rings patterns where they used their mapping skills to determine what the patterns were telling us
  - Judie Offerdahl (1st Grade). Ms. Offerdahl 's grant was STEM (engineering) related and included the purchase of a number of different activity kits that allow students to experience real world applications for science. The kits involve students in various build and create scenarios designed to teach concepts such as movement, speed, gravity, stability and the use of power. Students are also challenged to explain their findings and identify ways they might improve upon their initial experiment. The grant learning targets outlined for the students include the design of natural systems with components that interact and illustrate how scientists investigate the natural world and communicate with each other.
  - Katrina McCarthy (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade): Ms. McCarthy's grant was STEM (science) related with a focus on weather. Learning targets included knowing and understanding weather, using instruments to measure it and re-evaluating data to form outside conclusions. Grant purchases allowed students hands on experiences with how to use several weather instruments and they participated in a weather challenge (i.e. using a barometer where they learn how to design the instrument and then formulate ideas on how to make it work better).

- 2016 -17 Board Elections

PTO President Julie Jeppson commenced the discussion on PTO Board nominees for 2016 - 17 school year. There was one candidate for each position and each of the nominees provided a brief description of their background and interest in the role.

- President: Marla Sciara.
- Vice President: Andy Kuempel (second term)
- Treasurer: Jenny Depoint
- Secretary: Kim Porter
- Volunteer Coordinator: Rachel Folden

#### Activities Update and Dates to Remember

- Appreciation and Thanks: There have been no formal PTO sponsored events since the March meeting. A special thanks to Kim Porter for her support for Spring pictures.
- Grant Proposal Submissions: PTO President Julie Jeppson indicated that the deadline for 2015/16 grant proposals was extended to Friday, April 15th. Principal Kahoun and Teacher Liaison Kevin Koch indicated they were aware there were teacher proposals forthcoming.
- Spring Carnival: Dawn Bradley, Chair of the event, was not present for the meeting but Marla Sciara reminded parent attendees that the Signup Genius had been sent to solicit volunteers for the event and encouraged parent participation. Volunteer Coordinator Kim Porter shared that a Facebook post with the Signup Genius link had also been posted. It was discussed that additional help for setup for the event would be welcomed starting at 12:00 noon on Friday. There was a question regarding a family "cost cap" for the event. Tickets for the event are \$10 per child with a family cap of \$30.
- Mileage Club: Heidi Sass, event chair, reminded attendees that they were looking for 4 - 5 people per day to share in the set-up, event coordination over lunch and tear down of the Mileage Club event on Monday's and Friday's for 4 weeks starting the week of April 25th (with Thursday the 28th being a substitute for the Friday the 29th holiday from school). She indicated that husbands, siblings and grandparents were all welcome volunteers. Heidi also reminded attendees of the potential to organize volunteer "theme weeks" in which parents from the same grade could join together to sponsor a week giving them the opportunity to meet other parents with students in the same grade.
- BOGO Scholastic Book Fair: The chairs for the event (Brooke Roach and Jamie Lach) were not in attendance but PTO President Julie Jeppson reminded parents that it was an outdoor family event featuring a meal of hotdogs and brats in coordination with a Scholastic book fair.
- Open Chairs: PTO Volunteer Coordinator Kim Porter indicated that she was working on finalizing as many chairs as possible for 2016/2017 starting with those who had previously chaired each event.

#### Open Microphone

PTO President Julie Jeppson opened the floor for Open Microphone questions and topics.

- There were no questions or topics brought forth

#### Adjournment

PTO President Julie Jeppson then called a motion to adjourn at approximately 7:35 pm.

- The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 9th at 6:30 pm in the Art Room

Respectfully submitted by PTO Secretary Laura Jacobsen