

Northpoint PTO

Meeting Minutes – February 13, 2017

Opening

The regular meeting of the Northpoint PTO was called to order at 6:34pm on February 13, 2017 in the Northpoint Media Center by Marla Sciara.

Present

PTO Board Members: Marla Sciara (President), Andy Keumpel (Vice President), Jenny DePoint (Treasurer), Rachel Folden (Volunteer Coordinator) and Kim Porter (Secretary). Principal, Judi Kahoun. Teacher Liaisons, Kevin Koch and Alyssa Wargin. School Board Representative, Marilynn Forsberg. Presenters included Superintendent, Dr. Ronneberg, Director of Learning and Innovation, Hope Rahn, Learning Coordinators, Lisa Switzer and Amy Bjurlin. There were approximately 18 additional parents/guardians in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

November Minutes were routed for review. A motion to approve was requested. Approved. Seconded. Minutes have been emailed out to the PTO distribution list and posted on the Northpoint PTO webpage.

Agenda Topics

Presentations – Strategic Plan for the Future / Operational Plan

Jeff Ronneberg and Hope Rahn: an overview of the districts operational plan was given. This identified strategic projects that are being researched or implemented to improvement and innovate within our district. Presentation included handout and videos.

http://www.springlakeparkschools.org/cms/lib8/MN01909687/Centricity/Domain/277/2015-15_strategic_plans_v1.pdf

Our District Purpose

High Expectations. High Achievement. For all. No Excuses.

Our Vision for the Future

The Spring Lake Park School District will be a world-class learning community aligned around...

- Fostering personalized experiences so that each student feels valued, inspired, and has a sense of belonging,
- Resulting in college readiness, and the development of academic, life, and career skills so that each student has aspirations for success.



Innovative and Personalized Learning Develop innovative and personalized learning practices that capitalize on staff creativity, position the district to leverage and adapt to emerging influences, and meet the needs, interests, and aspirations of our students

The key areas of this are Competency-based learning, Facilities for Future Programming, Learner Profiles and Maps, and Systemic Innovation by Design. One of the key areas that Jeff and Hope honed in on is the **Personalized or Competency Based Learning**. A

Personalized Learning and Competency-Based Learning Video was viewed. This illustrated the concept of the personalized learning system vs. the traditional school that we tend to be more familiar with. A personalized learning system flips the traditional school model upside down, leaving each student at the center. Although all students have different targets, this model strongly helps to make sure each learner is academically prepared for the classroom and daily life. Each learner has their own strengths, interests, personality traits and learn needs; with no 2 children being the same, this model will help improve the success of each child.

****Video link:** <https://safeshare.tv/watch?v=IGLJWAQn1CU&clean=false>

SLP Administration is working with district learnings, working with other organizations and other school districts to see how this is being addressed.

Facilities for Future Programing – construction of new K-4 and renovation of existing facilities in conjunction with reviews/design of the districts K-4, 5-6, 7-8 programming.

Ariel view of new K-4 school. Additional information and pictures can be found at:

<http://www.springlakeparkschools.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=1774>. Open classroom concept with a Learning Commons area that can accommodate the school and / or community gatherings. Operable walls allow for the learning spaces to change depending on group size. For more information on the operable walls, Jeff suggested to google Nana Wall. <https://www.nanawall.com/> Plans to start construction in April 2017 and open in August 2018. Northpoint will gain Maker Spaces and more flexibility within the pods. Westwood 5B will most likely gain operable walls as well. Preschool will be re-introduced into the elementary schools. Additional and more comprehensive updates are shared at: <http://www.springlakeparkschools.org/Page/937>



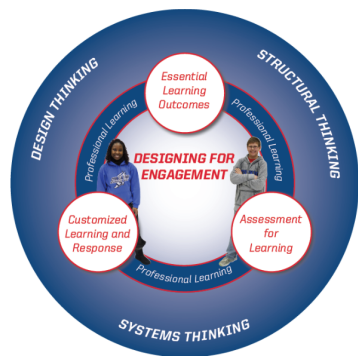
Learner Profiles and Maps - 21st Century learning skills are the academic and career and life competencies are goals for students to learn. Learner profiles are described as each student having different motivators, strengths, desires and passions – an in-depth look at each learner not a class. For each student a personal learning maps is referenced. This depicts where the learner is with their learning, competencies, and how is s/he is working with the teachers to get to their goals/targets.

Systemic Innovation by design – hands on approach. STEM is happening more and more throughout the district. Two videos were shown with STEM/hands– Northpoint and Westwood intermediate.

Lisa Switzer and Amy Bjurlin: District Learning Coordinators provided overview on processes that they work on daily. Presentation began with a brief explanation of why this team would enter formal review process.

1. if state standards change (every 5-7 years), 2. if they notice big trends with district wide data, 3. emerging influences (i.e. STEM). Another reason would be categorized as ‘Just In Time’ reviews – not a formal review, but rather an individual classroom that is looking into their data. Curriculum work starts with the Essential Learning Outcomes (ELO) and how these are measurable and how they show what are expected of each student to know and understand. Lisa and Amy discussed how enduring understandings, essential questions and learning targets are aligned with college ready standards. Teachers across the district use the ELO structure.

The next step would be Assessment for Learning. District level we are looking for those benchmark levels – for instance in reading and math we look at end of tri. and for Social studies and Science typically end of unit assessments. Three key pieces that are looked at are endurance (do students need to know for just this test or is there a lasting value), leverage (does this touch more than 1 content area), and readiness (is this foundation / building block for next target). Please contact Amy and/or Lisa with any questions or for more details/slide deck.



Budget – Not much has changed in the budget. Due to timing, we skipped the budget agenda item. Please direct any questions to Jenny DePoint at nppto.treasurer@gmail.com.

Business –

- Conference Meals - Thank you to all who have signed up!
- Book Fair – May need one more volunteer.
- Movie Night - Went well. Very positive feedback with the concessions in the movie areas. Less people were out in the hallway.
- Spring Carnival – April 21st is right around the corner. Dawn Bradley has already been solidifying the Committee Chair that will lead the key functions needed for the carnival. If you are interested in learning more about the committee chair positions, please contact the PTO board or Dawn directly.

Administration –

Kevin Koch and Alyssa Wargin: Teacher liaisons will be giving their update and presentation next month.

Marilynn Forsberg:

Facility Update: Enjoyed listening to the update that Dr. Ronneberg/Hope Rahn gave. Confirmed that the Woodcrest facility would change to a K-4 Spanish Immersion school to remain consistent with the other K-4 school structure. When transitioning to 5th grade at Westwood, students will still have Spanish classes. A big thank you to all residents for the support of the referendum and to Jeff for all his hard work and attentiveness with the facility changes. Reminder of the 12X12 Plan = All graduates will have the opportunity to earn 12 college credits before they leave the district.

Judi Kahoun: Judi will add more next month due to time constraints tonight, however she did want to share that she believes that this year has been a lot of fun thus far. NP staff is looking forward to the future with practicing the ‘Yes and...’ concept due to all the teacher creativity we have in this school. There has been a lot of design work that is being done continuously including changes with school schedule, individual team schedules and experiences that might be more engaging. One questions that we ask is: What is the work and experiences that we want the kids to have to get to the learning targets?

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by Marla Sciara. The next meeting will be March 6, 2017 at 6:30 in the Northpoint Media Center.

Minutes submitted by: Kim Porter

Reviewed By: Judi Kahoun, Marla Sciara