

# Northpoint PTO

## Meeting Minutes – November 14

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### **Opening**

The regular meeting of the Northpoint PTO was called to order at 6:32pm on November 14 2016 in the Northpoint Media Center by Marla Sciara.

### **Present**

PTO Board Members: Marla Sciara (President), Andy Keumpel (Vice President). Principal, Judi Kahoun. Teacher Liaisons, Kevin Koch. School Board Representative, Marilyn Forsberg. Presenter was Mari Dahlke, Language Arts Lead. There were approximately 10 additional parents/guardians in attendance.

### **Approval of Minutes**

September 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 – Word Study – Marki Dahlke

Spelling is being done differently this year. Focus is more of a study of words than a pre-determined spelling list. More instructional time will be spent on phonics and word analysis. High frequency words and commonly used words will also be a big part of this. There is a focus on reading and writing during learning and an application of skills to decode unfamiliar words.

Teachers will do check-ins to see when they can move on to new words. Old words will always come back – not just for that weeks list.

Answers to questions:

Check-ins will be done whole group versus individually.

Focus shifts from rote practice to understanding rules/what we know about words.

#### Activity – Introductions and brainstorming G movies for movie night.

Budget – Quick PTO budget and financial status. Book Fair and Fall Party finances in. Much as to be expected. Book fair very successful. Please direct any questions to Jenny at [nppto.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:nppto.treasurer@gmail.com).

#### Business –

- Conference Meals - Meghan R. willing to do winter. Would like help.
- Fall Party (Heidi Sass) – All went well. Plenty of volunteers and all areas were busy.
- Movie Night - planning is underway. Looking for a G movie that falls in our copyright license.
- Usbourne Book Fair - Niomi Hassling has taken on. Is looking for a co-chair. Will be with winter conferences.

#### Administration –

**Kevin Koch** – Thank parents for fall party and for all volunteer support.

#### **Marilynn Forsberg:**

Facility Update: Board will vote on site tomorrow night (Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup>).

Personalized Learning: Talking about this at district level in terms of instruction, testing, and conferences.

Updating World Languages: Looking at SI, high school, middle school offerings. How to evolve.

12X12 Plan: All graduates will have the opportunity to earn 12 college credits before they leave the district.

**Judi Kahoun:**

Social Curriculum Work: Teachers are working on looking at 4 skills students should develop as they move through NP. 1. Skills for learning 2. Empathy 3. Emotion Management 4. Problem Solving

Professional Development: Teachers spent PD time looking at how to meet sensory needs of students to better allow them to learn. They explored best practices in this area to better accommodate what bodies need – kneel, stand, move while learning.

Substitute Comments: Judi shared that she has received many positive comments from subs working in the building about the friendly feel of the staff and the well-behaved/positive kids.

District Staff Walk-thrus: Staff has been doing walk-thrus of various buildings and were recently at NP. They commented on the great level of student engagement. They suggested creating more opportunities for students to engage with each other as well.

Election Day: Voting went well. It was organized and safe for kids.

Communication: Administration is looking at some new/creative ways to communicate with parents. Possibilities included a coffee with the principal, a weekly video message, more/different use of schoology.

**Open Floor (5 minutes per topic)**

A question was asked about any incidents post-election. Judi said there were a few isolated incidents that were addressed individually and immediately.

**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm by Marla Sciara. We do not have a December meeting. The next meeting will be January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Northpoint Media Center.

Minutes submitted by: Marla Sciara

Reviewed By: Judi Kahoun