Mount Nittany Elementary School
PTO Meeting
January 15, 2015

Minutes

A. Call to Order 6:50PM

B. Presidents' Remarks – Tracy Binkley / Alison Martin

Welcome and happy New Year.

C. Principal's Remarks – Mrs. Latta

- Holiday sing-a-long was held on Dec 22nd. Wonderful event.
- Morning of Friday, Feb 13th, 2nd annual Jump Rope for Heart. Last year we raised several thousand dollars. Parents will be invited this year. There is a schedule by grade – grades 2-5. 25 minutes per grade.
- This is a heavy testing month – for grades 3-5. January AIMS testing, MAP testing.
- We are nominating MNE to be a PA banner school for our positive reward program. Will be assessed by a committee in February.

D. Reading and Approval of Minutes – Susan McWhirter

November and December Approved by Lisa Davis and seconded by Caren Bloom-Steidle. Unanimously passed.

E. Reading and Approval of Treasurer's Report – Holly Kononchuk

$5737.84 current balance. Still to pay $938 for 3rd and 4th grade to see Frogz. Half will be reimbursed. Approved by Caren Bloom-Steidle and seconded by Jen Banfield. Unanimously passed.

F. Funding Requests

G. Letters of Communication – being passed around

H. Committee Reports

A. Author Visit / Library events (winter) – Mr. Brackbill
Literacy day – reading, writing, listening and story telling. March 2nd. Presenters – to read and speak about why reading is important. A read-a-thon could kick it off the week and make it a weeklong fundraiser. We could use pledge forms and then dedicate a certain number of minutes to read at home. We could ask for donations from Webster, Barns and Nobles for prizes. Aligns with

Read Across America. Will inquire with Miss Delafield for reading bingo. Motion to approve holding a read-a-thon – Approved by Lisa Edwards and seconded by Dea Bieberdorf. Unanimously passed.

B. Box Tops for Education (ongoing) – Caren Bloom-Steidle
The February frenzy competition will be starting. February 23rd will be the deadline in order to submit them by March 1st. A counter will be needed per grade. Box tops are sorted into baggies of 50. Check expiration dates. Prize for the winning grade.

C. Exploration Fair (winter) – Jamie Cunningham
Everything is ready to go. Everyone is encouraged to leave notes on certificates – especially teachers. Prize? Motion to approve up to $100.00 for prizes. Approved by Caren Bloom-Steidle and seconded by Jen Banfield. Unanimously passed.

D. Family Fun Nights (ongoing) – Rachelle Coffey
MOVIE NIGHTS:
- The all-purpose room has been booked for Feb 6, Mar 6, April 10, and May 1. (April 10 date: just have the front half of the gym, so it will be projected onto the wall)
- Free to staff and families. Families can come, bring their own snacks, pillows, chairs, etc.
- Flyers will need to be printed and passed out. Info will be posted on Facebook. Can Mrs. Latta send an email?
- Rachelle has movies to show that are approved through our licensure.
- If Mr. Brackbill is unable to be there, we will coordinate ahead of time to figure out how to use the video equipment

FAMILY FUN NIGHTS **OUT**:
- *PENN SKATES:
  - Has agreed to cut us a deal… instead of $395 for a fall and spring date, they've agreed to charge us $197.50 for a one time use, and each person attending "pays" by bringing in a requested item: napkins, paper plates, hand sanitizer, tissues, etc. for admission and a $3.00 skate rental fee.
  - Parent request - ask about song choices, in order to ensue that the music is age appropriate.
  - Motion to approve the one time use fee of $197.50 – Approved by Lisa Edwards and seconded by Caren Bloom-Steidle.
- PEGULA ICE ARENA: charges $245 an hour for a rink. We could also potentially split this with another school. Discussion occurred and we decided that we would prefer to take advantage of the Penn Skates deal.

E. 5th Grade Party (June) – Rachelle Coffey, Mrs. Hipp, Lisa Davis
Rachelle emailed the volunteer list to pick a date in order to have a brainstorming meeting. Susan Hipp is on the committee, as well as a couple other parents who've done this before. Once everything is decided and delegated, Rachelle will contact Mrs. Latta to make sure we are doing all we need as far as permission slips and

transportation, etc. Also, the committee will determine an estimate for cost and hopefully come up with a way to raise most, if not all, of the money.
Mrs. Latta suggested that the committee should reserve the space sooner than later.

F. Fundraising (ongoing) – TBD

G. Marianna Hoagie Sale (fall) – Beth Adams

H. Restaurant Nights (ongoing) – Rachelle Coffey

Jan 29: Chic Fil A

- Need 4 volunteers for the 5-8 pm wheel-spinning event. Sign up genius has been sent to the committee. If it's not filled by Sunday, then we will send it to the whole PTO
- Flyers have been printed and can be distributed whenever. They are valid for the whole day. 6 am-10:30 pm
- We get 15% of sales using our flyers, and 100% of proceeds from wheel spinning event. $1.00 for every spin

Feb 19: Pizza Hut

- Should be getting 275 flyers next week. We can make copies.
- Works for delivery as well as in store.

Mar 25: Applebees

- The flyer has been forwarded to the PTO.
- Flyers have to be presented to server at beginning of meal.
- 15% of all sales with flyers
- There is an additional fundraiser that Applebees runs. Tracy will see if they can run concurrently.

April 16: Five Guys

- No flyers needed. Only need to mention our school, get 20%
- Mascot can stand outside and encourage people to say our school, but no soliciting or advertising inside store.

May 20: Sweet Frog

- 20% of all sales with flyer
- Flyer will be forwarded

Possibly June 2: TGI Fridays

- Still need to speak with them

We could also do summer months…. Sweet Frog and Applebees would be the easiest.

I. Fun Run (fall)- Mrs. Rossman-Styers

J. New fundraising idea: Restaurant discount cards – min 250 cards. Could we poll the parents to see what restaurants would be interested in? Discussed holding the fundraiser in

the spring. We will need to front the expense for 250 cards. We can purchase more if they sell. Motion to approve – Approved by Caren Bloom-Steidle and seconded by Lisa Edwards. Unanimously passed.

K. Giant A+ for Education (ongoing) – Kathryn Bainbridge

L. Helping Hands (ongoing) – Tracy Binkley

M. Hospitality (ongoing) – Rachelle Coffey

- Holiday party was a success. Food items or gift cards were all donated via signup genius, as well as nice toilet paper and soaps for staff bathrooms. No PTO money spent. Had enough volunteers despite flu season. Additionally, staff members got a holiday cookie treat in their mailbox.
- Hope to have valentine treats, St. Patrick's Day treats and April treats in each mailbox.
- May—first week, is teacher appreciation week. We will do what we did last year: daily mailbox treats, daily themed meals, and upgraded items for the bathrooms. We will hope to stick with donations from parents via signup genius. It has been very successful so far.

N. Ice Cream Social (May/June)– Jen Banfield and Lisa Davis. Similar to last year.

O. Labels for Education (ongoing) – Kirsten Leitzinger. No report

P. Playground (ongoing) – looking at some additional pieces. Will look at options at next meeting. Lines to be painted on black top. Suggestion was made to link the box tops competition to benefiting the playground.

Q. Scholastic Book Fair (fall and spring) – Traci Thomas.
No report

R. Spirit wear (ongoing) – Mrs. Hartzler and Mrs. Rockey
Running low on certain sizes. Motion to order a few additional tee shirts. Minimum order is 12 shirts @ $5.75 / shirt.
Motion to approve. Approved by Lisa Davis and seconded by Jen Banfield. Unanimously passed.

S. Yearbook (Ongoing) – Jennifer McCann.
Paid $1643.00 deposit.

I. New Business

J. Unfinished Business

Announcements

Next Meeting – February 12, 2015 Mrs. Rockey's classroom

Meeting adjourned 8:11PM Approved by Caren Bloom-Steidle and seconded by Lisa Edwards. Unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted by Susan McWhirter. To be approved at the February 12th, 2015 meeting.