

Northridge PTO Agenda

September 10, 2024

Call to Order: 6:46 p.m.

Parent/Teachers present: Brandi Sonneson (president), Calli Scheller (Treasurer), Amber Estabrook (Vice President), Amanda Godfread (secretary), Justin Weichel, Ms. Mertz (Principal), Alyx Matthews, Thomas Parisian, Sadie Storhaug, Dr. Angie Gillis, Mr. Jonas, Mr. Bennett, Kaelee Kuklis, Mrs Enochson (Asst. Principal), Evan Etienne.

Introductions:

Approval of Minutes: Brandi motioned to approve the minutes. Amber seconded. No discussion. Unanimous approval.

Reports:

1. Principal's Report:

- 410 students at this point in the school year, down about 10 kids from last year.
- Awarded the Fresh Fruits & Veggies grant again through the state to provide snacks to students.
- Granted a full-time English language teacher - 25 students speaking 12 different languages beyond English. Last year it was just part-time.
- We are School-wide Title I, with 39% of students qualifying, which provides additional funding for academic and behavior specialists. Ms. Mertz also provided a flier explaining Title I.
- BPS will have district discussions about transportation and a study that was done last year. It may impact how the 25-26 school year looks like and they want feedback from the community. Communication went out from the district about this. The proposal right now is to have different start time for elementary and secondary schools.
- Later this Northridge will be having a Family Coding Night made possible through a grant. Mrs. Claussen will facilitate the event on September 26, and it will be by RSVP only.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Pretty quiet right now with \$13,421 in bank account right now but we will need to bring in funds through the raffle and dine to donate events this year so we avoid a deficit budget with upcoming expenses.

Old Business:

1. Open House: Open house was during the day this year, which was new. We did not have a booth at it this year due to conflicting schedules. Staff appreciated the PTO breakfast that day.

New Business:

1. Teacher Allocations - Looking at \$6,300 based on current teacher counts. Calli is wondering if we can bump it down by \$25 based on available funds. Amber pointed out that staff whose home base is a different school should be removed from the list. Brandi also talked about rather than cutting each person a check, one check would go to the school and the school would divide out the funds into each person's budget. This would alleviate checks not being cashed and ensuring funds are spent for Northridge. Savings would be used to support a larger Teacher Appreciation Week celebration. Teachers present didn't have strong opinions either way, so Brandi will send out a survey and report back at the next meeting.

- a. New Teachers - \$200 vs \$175
- b. New part time teachers - \$100 vs \$75
- c. Returning teachers - \$150 vs \$125
- d. Returning part time teachers - \$50 vs \$25

2. Back to School Bash

- a. Food - Hot dogs from Cloverdale, buns from Family Fare/Schellers, Frito Lay donated chips. Need to ask Coca Cola more than 2 weeks out for water (online form) and we missed the window. Calli's dad is donating a tent to be used for the serving area.
- b. Donations
- c. Activities - chalk, bubbles, Title I raffle and cake walk, possibly giant Connect 4, story walk with the book Fry Bread.
- d. Budget Request - Calli motioned for \$400 to be allocated for expenses. Amber seconded. Mr. Jonas is willing to bring a 9 Square in the Air game. Unanimous approval for budget.

3. Calendar Raffle - We will sell for a full month this year with all drawings done on one day to make things more efficient. License is ready to go, but we need to order out tickets. Prizes will be four \$50, eight \$100, two \$175, one \$250 = \$1600. Classes who turn in all tickets, sell most, second and third most get various prizes. Start selling November 1. Turned in by December 2. Draw on December 6. They will be announced

on the various days of the calendar. Justin will ask if Basin is willing to print the raffle tickets.

Last year we raised about \$12,000, but netted about \$10,000.

Brandi motioned to allocate \$500 for printing costs, envelopes, and supplies. Justin seconded. Amber noted that we may need \$550 based on last year's expenses. That was accepted and unanimously approved.

- a. Teacher request with proceeds (SPED) - A swing has been requested that is usable by children unable to use the existing swings. Cost is \$1480. We have been looking to get this for a few years. May be helpful to encourage more raffle ticket sales if there is a more specific item that funds will support. Once it's purchased, that would be announced in the school newsletter.
- b. Ms. Mertz pointed out that if there is an overall dollar goal for the calendar raffle and we hit it, would it be good to have a school-wide celebration of some kind? Mr Jonas suggested we have a thermometer in the school somewhere to hype the kids up.
- c. Brandi motioned to approve including the swing to our Calendar raffle plan. Amber seconded. No discussion. Unanimous approval.

4. Northridge School- Wide 1 Annual Fall Meeting

5. Event Calendar

6. Conference Meal- (Oct. 14 & 15, Feb 11&13) - PTO will take the second days for our meals. Pulled pork was an idea, chicken went over well last year. Ms. Enochson suggested we add a money option on the Sign-up Genius this year too in addition to the sides.

Brandi motioned to allocate \$150 for the conference meal. Amanda seconded. No discussion. Unanimous approval.

7. Dine and Donate -

Culver's will donate 20% of sales from the day, but we have to have 2 people on site through a certain window of time.

Pizza Ranch will do a Monday, but we need to have 12 people within a 4 hour window.

Bearscat was also a good fundraiser so we will reach out soon to get on their calendar.

We have explored Applebees, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Crumbl Cookie, and are happy to check more.

8. Cashwise Rewards - Their reward system has changed this year, so it will no longer be attached to individual's More Rewards. They will still donate to area schools.

9. PTO Meeting sign request
10. 5th Grade t-shirts
11. Staff appreciation Budget request

Other items:

Dr. Gillis asked if we can get a breakout number of Northridge students who are Native Americans and their tribal affiliations. With that information, she can ask the various tribes for support to Northridge. Amber will request that information through the District.

Amber noted that the new school gear provider is donating back to Northridge so encouraged people to shop now.

Mr Bennett wanted to plant the seed to talk further about Artist in Resident with Allie LaRock (sp?) and the remaining difference after what is covered by grants and the school is about \$750. We will talk about it more at next month's meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Announcements:

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday October 8th at 6:45 PM in The Northridge Cafeteria

President- Brandi Sonneson, VP- Amber Estabrook, Secretary- Amanda Godfread, Treasurer- Calli Scheller.