

Parkway Northeast Middle School PTO
Minutes of PTO Meeting
March 29th 2016
To be approved at May 5th PTO Meeting

Principal's Report –Dr. Bell

Core Character Initiatives

1. **Family Groups** – Meet 2 Fridays/month
2. **6th Grade Day of Service** – Feb. 2, 2016/culminated with Assembly– Over 50,000 hours of service including:
 - Made blankets for Home Sweet Home
 - Built Pickle Ball courts/standards for NEMS
 - Family groups going to paint manhole covers
 - Water project with Sewer District
 - Supported troops at Soldier's Memorial
 - Creve Coeur Manor
 - Food Pantry – Loaves and Fishes
 - Read students at Craig Elementary
 - Fresh Start bags for homeless women shelters
3. **7th Grade Day of Diversity and Culture** – Feb. 17, 2016 – Sessions where students traveled around school and learned about various cultural activities including:
 - Japanese Tea
 - Counselor discussed Parkway Immigration
 - Vietnamese, Chinese, Arabic, Russian, Indian, and Islamic cultures
 - Bar/Bat Mitzvah presentation
 - Quinceañera Spanish “15” year old celebrations presentation
 - Korean 1st Birthday celebrations presentation
 - Culture of Inclusion – Special needs Olympic experience to understand disabilities
 - Henna Tattoos
 - NEMS STEP Team
 - Sign Language
4. **8th Grade Day of Transition** – May 16, 2016 – Preparing for Transition to High School
 - Career and College Fair - various local colleges and CC colleges and careers
 - Parkway Sparks program
 - South City Tech School
 - Parkway Alumni
 - Emerging Grade Level Counselor and Assistant Principal from North
 - HS Athletics and Activities Director Kris Kellems discussing NCAA and clearinghouse requirements for sports, scholarships etc.
 - Breakout Sessions to answer college questions, service learning/internships, scholarships, and HS panel of students perspective

(OVER)

Other Dates to Remember

1. **April 18th – 29th** – MAP preparation and Testing – Actual Testing - April 21st – 28th. – More information to come.
2. **May 13th** – Breakfast of Excellence – for those students who have earned a 3.8-4.0 GPA and/or Perfect Attendance as well as mentor groups and Jr. Viking Awards
3. **May 16th** – 8th Grade Evening Celebration at NHS – details TBA
4. **May 17th** – 8th Grade Day at Six Flags and 6th and 7th Grade have Field Days
5. **May 18th** – Signing Year books, 8th Grade Dance during the day from 1pm-3pm
6. **May 19th** – ½ day – Last day of school; will dismiss at 12:20 and will serve lunch

New Assistant Principle Selected – Mike Hazelton currently a teacher at NHS will be the new NEMS 6th grade Assistant Principal for next year. He will move with the incoming 6th graders through 8th grade. He will be present for all the 5th grade visits (April 4th – Bellerive, April 5th – Ross, April 7th – McKelvey and April 8th – Craig. He will officially begin his new position on July 1st. Everyone is thrilled that Mr. Hazelton will be joining the NEMS team!

Web Based Newsletter – Dr. Bell is experimenting with a new newsletter format for parents.

Officer's Reports

- **President/Vice President** – *Kenyatta William/ Karen Cassara*
 - Looking for New Treasurer for next school year. Please let us know if interested or know anybody who would be willing to help with this position
 - Get Volunteer names to Cindy Hansen to send out invites to dinner
- **Secretary** – *Natalie Wolfman* – Minutes from last two meetings (Nov and Feb) approved
- **Treasurer** – *Beth Graham* – Report approved
 - Generous Grant from Monsanto matched from parents' donations
 - \$500.00 check to written for test snacks
 - Staff Appreciation money left over from McAlister's teacher conference dinners
 - Thank you from Gina James for \$300 grant for Father/daughter tea – very successful
- **Committee Chairs**
 - **Purple Envelope** – Jodi Walsh will be the new Chair of Purple Envelope for next school year.
- **PTO Bulletin Board** – By office
- **Upcoming Dates:**
 - See Principal's Report above with ***Other Dates to Remember***
 - Last PTO meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner – May 5th

Last Meeting/Volunteer Appreciation Dinner – May 5th at 6:30 p.m.