

Northeast Elementary School PTO Meeting Minutes

January 8th, 2020

Total in Attendance: 12

Parents - Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian, Jake Kalnenieks, Amanda Pompa, Tina Glidden, Rebecca Platt, Raquel Hampton, Mallory Macdonald, Megan Liebe

Staff – Brenda Greene, Amy Violette, Kristan Doyle

Board of Ed- Debby Rodriguez

Meeting called to order at: 6:06 pm by PTO President, Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian

President's Welcome: Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian, President wished everyone a happy 2020 and announced that 3 checks were received since the last meeting. \$131.62 from the School Store Fundraiser, \$391.20 from Box Tops & a \$500 grant from Walmart that she applied for a couple weeks before its deadline! She also proposed using the \$50 Visa Gift Card the PTO received from the School Store fundraiser to purchase a coin counter/sorter to use for future events. All present approved the purchase.

Vice President's Welcome: Jake Kalnenieks, Vice President said hello to everyone and had nothing to report.

Secretary's Report: Amanda Pompa, Secretary went over the minutes from the Dec 4th meeting. Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian motioned to approve the minutes & Jake Kalnenieks seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Tina Glidden, Corresponding Secretary provided some updates on totals for some of the NES PTO's ongoing fundraisers through Amazon Smile \$236.68, Stop & Shop \$365.50, Shutterfly \$6.96, School Store \$131.32 & \$3140 directly to classroom teachers. She also provided an option to continue the school store fundraiser by way of postcards in the regular mail. All present voted against it.

Principal Tidbits: Dr. Brenda Greene, NES Principal said she's been looking in to new, fun assemblies for the school. She said that that State of CT Department of Education visited the school and had a great visit. They made comments regarding how calm, quiet and focused the NES students & staff are. NES received a new banner to display outside the school also for being a category 1, school of distinction. She mentioned that the 15th would be mismatched shoe day, there'd be no school on the 20th for Martin Luther King Jr Day and that the winter chorus concert was going to be on 1/22 with 2 performances, one during the school day and the other would be an evening show. She also relayed a suggestion from Mr. Lovett that the PTO should consider purchasing a new coffee pot since the one used currently isn't functioning properly. All present discussed & approved an approximate cost of \$155 for one. Dr. Greene then confirmed that there will be another VIP breakfast on 2/13 from 8am until 845am with coffee & donuts being served.

Treasurer's Report: Megan Liebe went over the budgets and treasurer's reports for Dec 2019 & Jan 2020. She also informed us that there were two \$50 checks for the classrooms that were given at the beginning of the year that have gone uncashed. She provided the names of the teachers to Dr. Greene who said she'd see if those teachers needed new checks or still had the originals. Amanda Pompa motioned to approve them both and Jake Kaleneieks seconded the motion. Motion was then approved by all present.

Old Business

Holiday Store: Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian reported that it was another fun & successful year selling almost 2000 items! A total of \$1876.75 was collected and \$116 holiday bucks were given to students that wanted to make purchases for their family but were not able to bring their own money to do so.

Movie Night: Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian said the 12/20 Pets 2 movie night was very nice. It was a smaller than usual group and although they had a few audio issues that needed adjustments it worked out well and it was a great night. She informed us that the 1/24 movie night was being cancelled and that we could use some helpers in the future for making popcorn.

New Business

Penny Wars: Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian showed a sample flyer that would be going home in Thursday folders. A discussion was had and decision was made on changing the values for the different denominations of coins & bills to help keep the addition and subtraction of points earned fair and somewhat equal.

Wolf Pack Game: Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian informed us that a Wolf Pack hockey game has been scheduled for Friday 2/14 @ 715pm which is "Love is Love" night at the arena. There will be \$2 hot dogs and other discounted concessions.

Multi-Cultural Night: Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian confirmed a date of Friday 4/3 for this event. Ms. Doyle volunteered to help with the planning of the event but others are needed & invited to join-in also. A flyer will be sent home once more details are ironed out.

Behavior Guidelines for Events: Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian brought in a rough draft of the "Northeast School PTO Event Behavior Expectations" form. A few changes were discussed and approved to make the overall message less negative and more positive. The form is to relay that proper behavior is expected & that those who do not follow the guidelines may be asked to leave and possibly not be allowed to participate in future events. The letter will be sent out at the beginning of every school year and anyone attending a PTO sponsored event will be required to complete the form.

Mini Grants: No requests were received since the last meeting.

Meeting was motioned to adjourn at 7:09pm by Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian and seconded by Jake Kaleneieks. Motion was approved.

Next Meeting set for Wednesday, March 4th, 2020 at 6pm in the NES Library