**Northeast Elementary School PTO Meeting Minutes**

**December 2nd, 2020**

**Tota****l in Attendance: 7**

Parents - Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian, Tina Glidden, Rebecca Platt, Rachel Hampton,

Staff – Brenda Greene, Deb Rodriguez (Board of Ed), Christine Sullivan

**Meeting called to order at:** Approximately 7:09pmby PTO President, Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian

**President’s Welcome:** Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian, PTO President started the meeting off with informing everyone that HP (Instant Ink) would be providing the NES PTO with a new printer since they sent a defective ink cartridge in October which caused the printer to fail. She also announced that a check for $321.75 had come in from last years square 1 art fundraiser. She then went over how she and her son delivered letters put together by the Raise Craze fundraiser participants to the local Police Department and other places throughout town. She welcomed everyone and said she was looking forward to the end of 2020.

**Vice President’s Welcome:** Kirsteen Alicia, NES PTO VP was not in attendance.

**Secretary’s Report:** Amanda Pompa, NES PTO Secretary was not in attendance so, Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian went over the minutes from the November 5th, 2020 meeting. All in attendance voted and the minutes were approved.

**Corresponding Secretary’s report:** Tina Glidden, NES PTO Corresponding secretary did not have anything to report.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Rachel Hampton, NES PTO Treasurer went over the Treasurer’s Report as well as the Budget and showed that the accounts were balanced. Everyone in attendance voted on the reports and both were approved.

**Principle Tidbits:** Dr. Greene, NES Principal announced that there were 3 weeks left before their early release day on 12/23/2020 which began the winter break. She said that everything was going great at the school still and that she had an excellent response with the family surveys. There are currently 145 families with in-school students at NES and a total of 157 responses had been received. The results were very good and were sent the NES staff members to see. Dr. Greene thanked the NES PTO for being so kind and communicative. She said the upcoming event their looking forward to is the Holiday Store. She said that the students are all keeping safe and being very respectful of protocols. She said that everyone seems to be enjoying the year and that Superintendent McCary had a great new sign for NES being a National Blue Ribbon School off RT 30 and that they also received and put up banners at the school to proudly display the great achievement.

**Old Business**

**Raise Craze Fundraiser:** Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian informed us that the fundraiser brought in a total of $1895 of which the NES PTO would keep $1778. Although, her goal was not reached she felt that the fundraiser was fun and successful. She remains confident that when community events are allowed again we can run the fundraiser again and see higher figures but either was it was wonderful to see the students and their families acting in kindness.

**PTO Insurance Update:** Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian reported that PTO Today, who previously held the insurance coverage for the NES PTO, was charging $600 per year for coverages on events that could not currently be held because of Covid-19 regulations so she had been shopping around for new, more basic coverages. She found 2 policies that would cost approximately a total of $133/year and would cover the D & O policy for the board members and a $10,000 Crime & Bonding policy which she said was more than enough to cover any funds the NES PTO has on hand at any given time. A discussion was had and all in attendance were in favor of making the changes.

**Butterbraid Update:** Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian announced that she had begun closing out the orders for the fundraiser but that it wouldn’t be finalized until the following Saturday so if any others came in or were known of to let her know before then so she could get them entered. A total of 95 Butterbraids and 37 Cake Rolls were sold and she estimated that the NES PTO would see about $450-$500 from the fundraiser. Amanda planned to do a drive-through pick-up event on 12/17 from 4/430pm until 6pm in either the rear parking lot or in the bus area in the front. She said the final details would be confirmed and a flyer would be sent out with the information.

**New Business**

**Holiday Store Progress:** Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian informed us that although she was minimizing options for the students this year she had been doing some ordering and shopping for new things for the event. She planned to meet one of the school custodians in the next few days to go through the 10 or so boxes with remaining items (old stock) for the holiday store to see what else could be needed. She suggested that if anyone saw anything that was around $1 per item that might be good for the store to let her know, especially if anything for fathers or grandfathers was to be seen. She make it clear that no more presents for pets were needed, that the NES PTO had plenty in stock. Dr. Greene confirmed that 12/18 would be a great day for the event and felt comfortable with having only one day for the event to be completed. Amanda & Dr. Greene said they would both communicate with the staff & students about the upcoming event through Facebook, Flyers, Emails & on our NES PTO website.

**4th Grade Mini Grant Request:** Christine Sullivan, NES 4th Grade Teacher, said that during normal times the 4th grade students would be getting ready for an Ice Cream Social earned through multiplication fact checks done by the students. She explained that they are introduced to multiplication in3rd grade and that they allow the 4th graders to earn different parts of an ice cream sundae by answering correct facts and reaching different goals having to do with mastering multiplication. She and Mrs. Corsino (the other NES 4th Grade Teacher) were hoping to instead offer other rewards like tye dying t-shirts & socks, movie day or pajama day. They requested that the NES PTO considering funding the events. Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian said she had looked in to the request a bit already and that she had found T-shirts on Amazon that would cost about $40 and a Mega Tye Dying Kit that would cost about $27. Dr. Greene stepped in and said that the NES activity fund could take on covering these things for the 4th Graders instead of the NES PTO. Ms. Sullivan was very pleased with the outcome & thanked Dr. Greene and Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian. Amanda said she would provide links and info with the items she found to Dr. Greene to help.

**December Community Event:** Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian announced that sadly there were no community events held in October or November but that she was really hoping to put something together in December. She suggested a movie night and said she had looked in to a web based site that people could access or via a downloaded app on apple or android devices. The movies that were discussed were winter themed like Frozen, Happy Feet and Ice Age. She said there would also be a chat feature for attendees to use during the event. The suggestion of a virtual game night came up as well. Tina Glidden said one of her middle school aged children had done events like that before and that he really seemed to enjoy them on a platform called Kahoots. Christine Sullivan said that some of the teachers in NES have also discussed using other virtual game sites as well. Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian thanked everyone for the suggestion and said she’d look in to that futher. The Movie Night was being penciled in for Friday, 12/18/2020.

The meeting was motioned to be adjourned at approximately 7:59pm by PTO President, Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian.

All in attendance were in favor.

**The next ZOOM: PTO Meeting is scheduled for WEDNESDAY, January 6th, 2021 @7pm Meeting ID: 502 094 7119 Passcode: NESPTO**