

# Northeast Elementary School PTO Meeting Minutes

February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## **Total in Attendance:**

Parents - Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian, Jake Kalnenieks, Amanda Pompa, Tina Glidden, Rebecca Platt, Rachel Hampton, Karissa Valvo, Crystal Jackson, Megan Liebe, Kristina Blanchette

Staff – Brenda Greene, Amy Violette

**Meeting called to order at:** 6:07 pm by PTO President, Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian she welcomed everyone to the meeting and said it'll be a quick meeting.

**President's Welcome:** Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian, President said hello to everyone and announced that we received a check from Big Y for \$1.

**Vice President's Welcome:** Jake Kalnenieks, Vice President welcomed everyone to the meeting & had nothing to report.

**Secretary's Report:** Amanda Pompa, Secretary went over the minutes from the Jan 8<sup>th</sup> 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 \$482.62, Shutterfly \$12.43, School Store \$131.32 & \$3,140 directly to classroom teachers.

**Principal Tidbits:** Dr. Brenda Greene, NES Principal announced that NES continues to be the best school in the district (based on statistics)! On a State report card if you get 85 or above you're considered a school of excellence and NES scored 85.2 & 86.6pts! We are excelling in all aspects and measurements. She thanked everyone for their support and contributions to making that happen. On 2/13 from 8-845am donuts and coffee will be served at the VIP breakfast. There will also be crafts and a chance to win a raffle basket. Friday 2/14 & Monday 2/17 there will be no school. 2<sup>nd</sup> grades field trip to the West Hartford children's museum got postponed to the following week. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is also going to be going on a field trip. Dr. Greene mentioned that the field trips are starting to become expensive and that they may need help from the PTO especially for transportation in the future. The Munson's fundraiser will be going out soon and orders have to be in by Wed 3/4.

**Treasurer's Report:** Megan Liebe went over the budget and treasurer's report for Jan 2020. Amanda Pompa motioned to approve them both and Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

## **Old Business**

**Penny Wars:** Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian reported that although it was off to a slow start the Penny Wars raised almost \$581. Kindergarten won the war and will get a popsicle party!

**Multicultural Night:** Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian and a few others had a planning meeting last week where they talked a lot about what they'd like to have happen and how the PTO can support the event and those cooking / hosting a space. Even if participants do not want to do an entire table they can make a dish to

contribute. We are hoping to have a designated dancing/story telling time also but more volunteers are needed. An email thread is going and anyone that would like to be added just needs to let Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian know.

## **New Business**

**American Girl / Raffle Prizes:** Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian was thinking ahead to end of year family fun fair and informed us that the NES PTO was approved to “win” an American doll. It will be one of the past years “American Girl Doll of the Year” & the doll’s approximate value will be \$150. All the NES PTO will have to pay is \$25 shipping. Amanda motioned to approve & all in attendance were in favor, so the motion was approved. Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian said she is also looking in to getting a Ring Doorbell to add as another raffle prize for the end of the year family fun fair. A list of places / local companies that have donated to us in the past (compiled by Tina Glidden) has been put together and the NES PTO is looking for volunteers to help make calls / visit businesses to gather donations for other raffle prizes. We are also looking for names of other companies/businesses that may consider donating to the cause.

**Paint Night:** Jake Kalnenieks brought in a sample spring sunflower themed bird house to show what the students & family members will be painting on 2/20 & 2/21. The bird house will be built already and there will be lessons on how to paint the front and sides but the top panels will be left for their own ideas/creations. They will be putting out some left-over jewels for accents that were left over from a previous event.

**Boon Supply (MixedBag) Fundraiser:** Amanda Pompa brought in the display samples sent to her by Boon Supply to help promote the upcoming fundraiser. She discussed some of the changes in the fundraiser since Boon took over and informed us that the Seller packets will be going home on the fundraisers start date of Thursday, 2/13 and are due back to school by 2/28. She also said the online link can be promoted and used through 7/31/2020. Amanda Pompa also raffled off a few of the items to those in attendance and will be raffling off the remaining items at the March PTO meeting.

**Dunkin Donuts:** Tina Glidden said that there will be a “decorate your own donut” event at the Dunkin Donuts in Lafayette Square on 2/23 and posed the idea of having something like that at Field Day for the students this year. She said she will look further into the details since everyone seemed to like the idea.

**Hockey Game:** Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian reminded us that tickets to the Wolf Pack game on 2/14 need to be purchased by 2/9 so she would be sending home a reminder in the upcoming weeks Thursday folder.

**Mini Grant Program:** Although there were no formal Mini-Grant requests, Dr Greene & Ms. Violette informed us that Mr. Lovett said some of the students are in need of backpacks again. The school is looking for new or like-new backpack donations. It was discussed that next year we can ask for donations at the beginning of the year or have a bookbag and lunch box drive to help increase inventory for kids in need. A few of the parents said they had some already that could be donated and will bring them in to Dr. Greene soon.

**Meeting was motioned to adjourn** at 6:58pm by Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian and seconded by Megan Liebe. Motion was approved.

**Next Meeting set for Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6pm in the NES Library**