

## Northeast Elementary School PTO Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2021

### **Total in Attendance: 9**

Parents - Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian, Tina Glidden, Rebecca Platt, Juan Pablo Ruiz, Mallory Macdonald, Rachel Hampton, Andrew Hettreck, Darlene Goulding

Staff – Brenda Greene, Amy Violette

Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm by PTO President, Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian

**President's Welcome:** Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian, PTO President, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Vice President's Welcome:** Rebecca Platt, PTO Vice President, welcomed everyone to the meeting. She had nothing to report.

**Corresponding Secretary's report:** Tina Glidden, NES PTO Corresponding Secretary, also welcomed everyone. She had nothing to report.

**Secretary's Report:** Mallory Macdonald, NES PTO Recording Secretary, read the August 25, 2021 minutes. All in attendance voted to approve the minutes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Rachel Hampton, NES PTO Treasurer, presented the treasurer's report. Beginning balance was \$1819.91. There were two transactions totaling \$1.36 for Scrips account verification. Expenses for ink, People's United account fee, Zoom membership and the back to school staff appreciation totaled \$315.52 leaving an ending cash on-hand balance of \$1505.75. All in attendance voted to approve the treasurer's report.

**Principle Tidbits:** Dr. Brenda Greene, NES Principal, welcomed everyone. She shared that she is trying to get away from mail and utilize email more for communications. This year there are a total of 44 Kindergarteners. Mrs. Brice, the new school secretary, started at the end of last school year. Mrs. Soto is the new librarian, replacing Mrs. Rock who retired. Mr. Lovett did not return this year and the school is looking to fill his position. Once all staffing is updated Dr. Greene will give an updated staff list. Spirit days are planned for this year. She also shared that the first field trip will be the fourth grade trip to Belding Wildlife area to explore nature. Also, at the board meeting Monday September 13th elementary school principals will be presenting their school improvement plans.

## **Old Business**

**Stock the staff room:** In place of the usual back to school lunch an assortment of snacks, fruit, drinks, k-cups, etc. were provided for staff members to welcome them back to school. Ms. Violette shared that it was appreciated by staff.

**Meet and Greet:** Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian and Tina Glidden were able to hand out flyers during the drive through meet and greet for back to school sharing information about the PTO with NES families.

## **New Business**

**Square1 Art:** Mrs. Edlin has been coordinating annual artwork submission for the Square1 fundraiser. This year she has proposed utilizing Artsonia instead. This program allows individual student profiles to be created and all of the artwork can be uploaded securely. Similar to Square1, these works of art can be used to create custom items (bags, cups, posters, etc.) without being constrained to ordering from a single piece of art. The PTO would receive 20% profit on what is sold. The proceeds would need to be spent through Amazon. Last year there was \$749 generated from Square1 sales. The PTO does not have a contract with Square1 and the final decision will be made at next month's PTO meeting.

**Scripts Fundraiser:** Flyers will be going home September 9th for the Scripts fundraiser which will run all year. This program sells gift cards for a variety of stores, some with a small purchase fee. The PTO receives a percentage back based on the vendor and there are special promotions with higher percentage returns. Many gift cards can be redeemed digitally so they can be used immediately after purchase. Physical gift cards can be ordered, generally with a shipping fee. Group orders may also be placed to save on shipping. Rebecca Platt will create an account to coordinate group orders.

**Ice Cream Social:** The first (in-person) event of the year is the ice cream social. The plan is to offer individual, pre-packaged ice cream bars or hoodsie cups. Tentative date is Friday October 1st at 6pm with a rain date TBD. Amanda is waiting to hear if staff members will volunteer to be servers, as they have in the past.

The meeting was motioned to be adjourned at 7:49 pm by PTO President,  
Amanda Ruttenberg-Hakian.

All in attendance were in favor.

**The next ZOOM: PTO Meeting is scheduled for**

**WEDNESDAY, October 6, 2021 @7pm**

**Meeting ID: 502 094 7119 Passcode: NESPTO**