

# North Star PTA Meeting

Date/Time: November 9, 2023 7:00pm

Location: Zoom Meeting

Attendance: Attendance sheet in Dropbox file

## **Agenda**

Welcome

Treasurer's Report

PTA Board Member Updates

Principal's Message

Meeting Adjourned

## **President**

Jen Stephenson

- Called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
- Welcome and thank you for attending.
- Motion to approve September meeting minutes by Lauren Monaco and second by Taresa Schmidt. The minutes were approved.

## **Treasurer**

Jen Agster

- Review of budget vs actual for July 1 through November 8, 2023. See full budget at:  
<http://www.nspta.com/BudgetReports.html>
- Updates on BYOP and Family Dance Party are reflected in the budget.
- Check just received from Kona Ice totaling \$450 (\$200 from Meet the Teacher, \$250 from Fall Family Dance) will be reflected on next meeting's budget.
- Spirit Fest was successful, and we met our goal of \$10,000.
- Membership is right on track. Thank you to everyone who joined. Tell your friends and family!
- Spirit wear is coming along nicely, thank you Bonnie and Sheri.

- The full amount is still available for staff appreciation. You'll see those numbers change as we treat school staff throughout the year.
- Academic competition numbers are updated.
- Insurance was paid.
- \$500 for assemblies paid for Tyler Severance, the world yo-yo champion.
- Bee Club updated budget is reflected.
- PTA operating expenses include fees paid for the annual state PTA conference which was this past weekend. Jen Stephenson, Bonnie Principe, and Sheri Laratonda attended.
- School and staff support is starting to be paid out as we send out teacher reimbursements.
- Treasurer proposed the following budget amendments:
  - Add \$250 to tax preparation line item for a total of \$750. The majority voted "yay" and there were no "nay" votes. The motion was approved.
  - Add \$1,000 to School and Staff Support line item in order to reimburse up to \$75 for paraprofessionals and long-term substitutes. The majority voted "yay" and there were no "nay" votes. The motion was approved.
- There were no questions about the budget and the budget was approved.

## **President**

Jen Stephenson

- Thank you Tiffany Terranova and Lauren Monaco for planning the Fall Family Dance. It was a lot of fun! Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the raffle, food sales, and glitter tattoos.
- Thank you Bonnie and Sheri for arranging the caramel apple cart for the teachers. Thank you to the teachers for all that you do!
- Applications for teacher grants are due by 12/1. Grants up to \$300 per application are available this year. The application goes to Dr. J for approval first and then to the PTA for approval. Ask for things you can use to help support the educational experience of our students. Decisions will be emailed by 12/11.

## **Chair of Student Services**

Lauren Monaco

- Over 20 boxes of candy were collected this year by Candy Fang. Shout out to Mr. Shields who took 16 boxes of candy to Stockings for Soldiers on Rt. 202 and he will come back next week to do the rest. Thank you!

- Scholastic Book Fair is coming up! It starts on Monday 11/27 and runs through Friday 12/1. Thank you Marie A. who has been running the book fair for years. Students will shop during their library special. There are still some spots available if parents want to come help the shoppers. We are accepting e-wallet this year which you can load ahead of time so your child can pay electronically. We are not offering coin change this year.
- S'more Stories will return on 11/27. This was a new event for us last year. There will be 8-10 campfire stations with 2 readers at each. Our 5th graders who are preparing for middle school will be showcased that evening. A signup went out to 5th grade families for students interested in being readers. At the end of the story, the 5th graders will lead a discussion about the lesson within the story. 10 new books have been chosen for this year! Please sign up to let us know if you'll be in attendance, or if your 5th grader is interested in reading.
  - We will be selling S'more kits at the event. We have a generous donation for the ingredients pending.
  - Make your way into the library that night and check out the Book Fair which will be open for shopping hours.

## **Vice President**

Taresa Schmidt (via Zoom)

- Teachers: Please apply for the teacher grants! Encourage others to do the same. We want to spend this money. The amount is larger than in the past but it's a small amount compared to what you spend throughout the year.
- Membership: Thank you for being members. Encourage your friends and families to become members. Members mean we are getting more resources and have more dollars to give to the school. A link to the membership store is on the website ([www.nspta.com](http://www.nspta.com))
  - Current members who want to get involved should reach out. The Volunteer Interest form is on our website.
  - We have 393 members. Our membership Goal is 500 this year. PTA membership makes a great holiday gift.
  - For every 100 members we are going to raffle off a yearbook. Looking to bump up this number by the end of January.
  - PTA membership is a great way to know what's going on and support the school.

## **Chair of Fundraising**

Sheri Laratonda

- Waiting for results of Anthony's and Five Below fundraisers to come back.

- The next Five Below fundraiser will run from 11/13-11/20.
- A local business called Ooh La Lashes reached out and offered 15% back to NSE on services in the month of November.
- In the works: Possible Friendly's restaurant night, Chuck Lager, and Moe's meal kits.
- Spiritwear- There are some new Puravida bracelets in NSE colors coming soon. They should be available at S'more Stories and the rest of the Spirit Wear Store will be there as well.

## **Principal's Message**

Dr. Karin Jakubowski

- Thanks for joining.
- Kudos to Mauloni, Dwyer, and Clark for being here.
- Mrs. Ganc had a returning student and her parent come in today to do an activity with the class and share about Dewali.
- Our Aaron Reynolds author visit was today. The kids loved it!
- The North Star Mail opened today. The PTA gift helped fund the stamps, paper, and stickers. Shout out to Mrs. Rivera for reviving the North Star Mail!
- Thank you to the PTA who provided recess equipment at the start of the school year. A rush order of more playground equipment was placed. Thank you to Sheri L. and Bonnie P. for inflating the balls.
- The play will be Little Mermaid Jr. this year! There will be 3 performances in March.
- Parent/Teacher conferences are coming up. Please sign up with your child's teacher.
- Happy Veteran's Day. No school tomorrow.

Listing of some expenditures from last year's PTA gift funds:

\$500 North Star student mail

\$145 Recess equipment order (balls)

\$2,800 to update 17 teacher desk chairs

\$320 to Becker's STEM program to add 1st grade STEM as a special

\$5,000 (each year over 3 years) for new stage curtains

Would like to use PTA gift money to buy Field Day t-shirts this year. Will also buy Woodside Creamery ice cream for the whole school again this year on Field Day.

## **Closing**

Jen Stephenson

- Next PTA meeting is at 7pm on January 11th. Meeting will be in-person and on Zoom.
- February, and March PTA meetings will be virtual only.
- Yearbook photos can be sent to [nsbearsyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:nsbearsyearbook@gmail.com)
- Visit our website and like us on Facebook!
- Meeting adjourned at 7:34pm.

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