

North Star PTA Meeting

Date/Time: April 12, 2011 at 7:10pm

Location: North Star Elementary/Multi-Purpose Room

Attendance: Attendance Sheet in PTA Office File: PTA Meeting 4/12/11

Note: A quorum was present for the meeting.

AGENDA

Introduction and Welcome

Pledge of Allegiance/North Star Pledge

Principal/Vice Principal's Message

Guest Speaker: Faith Newton, School Board Candidate

Board Presentations

Presentation of PTA Board Nomination Slate

Closing/Meeting Adjourned

Visual: Power Point Presentation in PTA Office File: PTA Meeting 4/12/11

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Patti Westergard - Called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND NORTH STAR PLEDGE

Patti Westergard led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and recited the NS Pledge.

GUEST SPEAKER PRESENTATION

Faith Newton is running for the Red Clay School Board against James Buckley (who was out of town and could not attend this meeting). She presented her platform, which is academics. She feels that we need to return the focus to academics. She feels that discipline needs to be better addressed in the schools. She wants to improve parental involvement in the schools (which includes getting parents to work with administrators to find the right solution for that school on its disciplinary and academic issues). Several PTA members mentioned concern over discipline and academic issues at H.B. DuPont Middle School. Faith feels that by increasing parental involvement and getting parents to work with administrators there, that the disciplinary issues will decrease. Elections are May 10th.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Andrea Lanciault

Thank you to Jen Minchini and Margo Miller for attending the meeting. Margo Miller's 4th grade enrichment classes are working on Market Day and the 5th graders are playing the Stock Market Game. During tours that Andrea gives to prospective students, the current students are advertisements themselves. They speak up about how much they love the school, even going so far as to say "this is a Bully-free school" and "the teachers here are experienced." Jen Minchini has been using iPod Touch systems in her library classes. There are educational apps on them to work on reading, writing, spelling, math, social studies and grammar skills (to name a few). She has 30 systems but her cart has room for 10 more so she would like to use some of the library or technology budget from the PTA to buy 10 more systems plus their covers and accessories.

A vote was put on the table to give the library money to purchase these 10 units and accessories from the extra funds earned above and beyond what was budgeted to be earned this year. Motion put forth by Candy McDermott. Majority approved.

VICE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ann Wilson

Ann has noticed a walking path being put in at the New Garden Township Building on Route 41 and thinks that something similar would fit Pat Kreer's vision of the walking trail that he endowed money to the school to create. Ann requested the builders (GrassCutters) to come out and give an estimate. She would like to see if there are any NS parents who do this sort of work who would like to give an estimate/guidance as well.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORT

PRESIDENT

Patti Westergard

Patti presented the nomination slate for next year's PTA Board. Nominations are still welcome. Induction of the new Board will be done at the May PTA meeting.

President – Patti Westergard

Vice President – open

Secretary – Jen Wootten

Treasurer – Julie Lowe

Fundraising – Michelle Leone

Student Services – Jen Walmsley

School Support – Maureen Donnelly

We are in need of many committee chairs for next year. If we do not have someone to chair an activity, like Bingo night, then we just will not have it next year.

DIRECTOR OF FUNDRAISING

Michelle Leone

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Basket Raffle and Silent Auction. It was a huge success. Next up – Lip Sync!

DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL SUPPORT

Maureen Donnelly - Nothing to Report

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

Jen Walmsley

Skate Night was a success. Thank you to everyone who participated. We will be looking for volunteers to help with Field Day on June 3rd.

TREASURER

Jill McCormick

We made \$19,000 from the auction which was more than we budgeted to make. We have \$11,000 that we can give to the school for technology – we already discussed giving about \$4000 to the librarian for the iPod Touch purchases. The rest will be voted on at the next meeting to give to the school for the purchase of laptops. Each laptop is \$1100 and is purchased through the district.

SECRETARY

Julie Lowe – Nothing to Report

PAST PRESIDENT

Candy McDermott – Nothing to Report

Julie presented the March 23, 2011 PTA Meeting Minutes for approval

Motion: By Ann Wilson
To approve the March 23, 2011 PTA Meeting Minutes
Vote: Majority Approved

Meeting Adjourned: Time 8:20pm
Submitted by: Julie Lowe, North Star Elementary PTA Secretary 4/13/2011