

Draft copy; Minutes have not been approved
Northpoint Elementary PTO Minutes
Media Center
February 9th. 2009

Introductions

We had another great turn out; there were 23 in attendance.

Review of January Minutes

The January Minutes were approved without changes.

Treasurer's Report

Kelly Rademacher will be taking over as our PTO Treasurer effective immediately as Tracy is now the Administrative Assistant at Northpoint.

Presentations

Mrs.VanBurkleo, Music Specialist

Our first graders will be part of an exciting event on March 3rd. This will involve Music, Art and PE. Mrs.VanBurkleo would like to have treats available following the event on March 4th for 143 students and 6 teachers. Our PTO board will look at the budget to see what we can provide for this event.

First Grade Teachers

Our first grade teachers talked about using personalization with their teaching. They developed a fun way to teach math by using Tic Tac Toe. The children choose three activities from the Tic Tac Toe board. Each activity is in a bag and they get to choose a partner to do this with. Each teacher has developed a bin for this project that is sent around. ----The children have enjoyed this fun way to learn math.

First grade students are working on writing personal narratives using the framework of an Idea, Creating a Web, Forming a Copy and then creating the Final draft. Personalization is used with students. Word helpers are given to students that need help getting the ideas for their story going.

Mr. Callahan, Northpoint Principal

Mr.Callahan gave a big thank you to those who assisted in our last few school events (5 for 5 Walk-A-Thon, Book Fair, and Movie Night). All were a success and support teaching and learning here at Northpoint.

February 12th (early release) and the 13th will be used for professional development. Teachers will be working on short term/immediate goals to accomplish to increase the achievement of our students.

Mr.Callahan addressed the states challenge with the budget. Our district is currently making budget modifications for the 2009-2010 school year. This process will go on over the next 1½ months. Visit the district website at www.district16.org to add your thoughts or ideas to this modifying process. There are also frequently asked questions and quick links worth checking out.

We will have Jerelyn Nemanich come present online safety for our children just prior to our next PTO meeting at 6p.m. She will be talking about the technology in the district and the skills that students need for the 21st century. She will have a smart board here to show how it is used.

John Strobel, School Board Member

John reiterated anticipating a cut in the district budget. The board is not certain with how much will be cut, but also encouraged people to voice their ideas on the district website.

Activities Update

5 From 5 Update, Amy Hennen

Amy gave a thank you parents and teachers for making this event a success. 400 envelopes have been received totaling \$14,200. We have one more donation from the community which will bring the total to \$15,000.

Due to the success with this fundraiser, Amy raised the idea if we should do this type for our main annual fundraising event. She will put together a questionnaire and get feedback.

Movie Night/Book Fair/Conference Meal Report

Movie Night brought in 400+ people; a huge success. Conference meals were again enjoyed by teachers and staff. The Book Fair \$ will be going to the Media Center, books for guided reading and text in different languages.

Reading Night-February 20th

Reading Night will be coming up at Northpoint from 6:30-8 p.m. There will be food in the cafeteria. This will be a free event.

Spring Carnival-April 24th

We are just starting to plan for this event. If interested in volunteering, please contact Michelle Dempsey.

School Supply Kits

We have decided to go with SchoolKidz for next year. We will be getting updated list of supplies from teachers and discuss it at Kindergarten Round Up.

PTO Board Vacancies

We will be discussing vacancies at our March PTO meeting and approving board positions in April. Please let any of the PTO board members know if you are interested in a board position.

Volunteer Opportunities

There is an opportunity to help hang Art Work on March 2nd 5-5:30p.m.

There is also an opportunity to listen to kindergarten children read and read to them. Please contact Michelle Dempsey if interested at dempsey@attglobal.net.

There are sign up sheets for Taste Testing. Both the school and individual get paid to do this; contact Molly Sheedlo if interested.

Wednesday volunteers are always needed and appreciated. Please meet us in the PTO room Wednesday morning 9:30a.m.-11a.m. or afternoon from 1:30pm.-3p.m. You can come and go as you please. This is a fun way to get to know other parents at Northpoint.

Open Microphone

Amy Privratsky mentioned the Panther Foundation's Gala on February 28th. There are still tickets for this event. Dinner is \$110 and they have added a just dessert ticket for \$35. There will be a silent auction at this event. Visit www.pantherfoundation.org for more information about this event.

Our next meeting is March 2nd at 6:30p.m. in the Media Center