

NFE PTO General Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2020

Opening Introductions

Tim Adams - Principal
Chelle Mortimer - Co-President
Liza Masterson - Co-President
Rebecca Fish - Co- Vice President
Whitney Marshall - Co- Vice President
Dave Medeiros - Treasurer
Cathleen Edwards - Co- Secretary
Katie Evans - Co-Secretary
Amy Leonardi - Parent
Jennifer Chagnon - Parent
Jennifer Pierce - Parent
Alyssa Hike-Harris - Parent
Katie Fawcett - Parent
Kristin McLaughlin - Parent

Review of Past Minutes

- Approved

Principal's Report

- K-2 Chromebooks are about 2 weeks out
- An email will go out about collecting student belongings; it will involve some sort of curbside pick-up after 5/18
- Update on planning for re-opening in the Fall
 - One of the district's main goals is safety
 - We are waiting on guidance from the state government
 - Summer will give us the opportunity to plan and to build upon the "blended learning" that the staff has been preparing throughout remote learning - so we will have some things in place for when this happens again
 - We will aim to streamline curriculum across the district
 - *Parent comment:* It is very beneficial when teachers host live zoom classes. Mr. Adams said that they are aiming to strike the right balance between synchronous and asynchronous learning

- Can teachers record Zoom meetings because sometimes parents/kids can't make the scheduled meeting? Or could they send short videos in the morning?
 - Some teachers are using Flipgrid for this
 - Mr. Adams said that recording zoom meetings could help with providing repetition in instruction for kids
 - *Parent question:* Are there ways to use virtual learning to spend time “together” to build social emotional learning? For example, by hosting lunch bunches virtually?
 - Is this a space that the PTO could help fill?
 - There are many concerns about childrens’ mental health and anxiety due to social isolation.
 - Could the PTO offer a Zoom movie night at the end of the year?
 - Possibility of opening before Labor Day? The school calendar has been voted on and approved by the school committee; however, opening and scheduling is subject to change
 - Special Education Evaluations
 - Testing has to be done in-person in order to get valid results
 - Annual Reviews for current IEPs are resuming

Treasurer’s Report

- Yearbook money has been deposited
- Dave will send the Boosterthon check this week
- Do we need to send any refunds to families for field trips?
 - Chelle will talk to Mrs. Vacchino and check in regarding the Music field trip; however, we have not paid for the bus yet.
 - Plymouth Plantation is only offering credits for next year
- No checks have recently arrived from Rockland Trust
- Checks from Box Tops and Textiles, totally approximately \$300, were picked up from the PTO mailbox
- Fundraisers for the remainder of the year are cancelled
- Could we do a fundraiser for some sort of “relief” fund?
- Capital Project: Standing stations and FM sets
 - Will be ordered after summer cleaning has been completed

Yearbooks

- A big thank you to Amy!
- We will need a team to help with delivery in the beginning of June
- As of this meeting date, 120 yearbooks had been sold

- A total of 215 will come in and priority will be given to 4th grade families to purchase the remaining yearbooks
- For late orders, families should make a check out for \$18 and send it to the P.O. Box to Amy's name
 - There will not be Zoom inserts available for the late orders
 - We have until late May in order to make color tributes for 4th graders (can copy in color at Staples)
- Delivery:
 - To family homes by PTO volunteers, staff?
 - We would need permission to share addresses
 - Or, we could organize a pick-up by grade level with tables outside the school
 - The latest they are supposed to arrive is 6/12
- Recommendation to restructure the Yearbook committee for next year:
 - It would be helpful to have a photographer for each grade level
 - Vimeo ?: Could we tag people by using Vimeo?
 - Vimeo is not compatible with the Lifetouch Program

NFE Teacher Appreciation

- Students will be asked to contribute to a flipgrid video to show appreciation to teachers
- Chelle will draft an email to reach out to teachers for them to see it

Google Classroom

- Could lower grades also use Google Classroom?
 - Yes, Mr. Adams has recommended that it be used; but it is not mandated
 - Chromebooks will be going out to lower grade students
 - This will empower the kids and help build independence

4th Grade Tributes

- Families will get access to the slideshow via a link
- A motion was made to approve between \$900 and \$1200 for yard signs to congratulate 4th graders. The motion was 2nded and approved.
- Liza will coordinate this project
- New Wave Printing and Locust Street Signs make these types of signs

Next Year's Fundraising

- Will be planned with consideration of social distancing requirements

- Possibilities include: Spirit Wear, Cupcake Charlies, Color Me Mine, Boosterthon offers virtual opportunities
- Could we use PTO funds to offer some sort of therapeutic after school activity as part of our after school activity programming? For example, via art, yoga, “talk groups,” or in the form of an “After School Play Date” within which we might be able to incorporate Angela?
 - Possibly, an email could go out to parents letting them know that we may be looking at offering small group support sessions after school (to gauge interest) and to let parents know that the lines of communication regarding this social-emotional concerns are open with teachers and staff

Spirit Wear Face Masks

- Is this something that we could provide to all students?
- Mr. Adams mentioned that the district has been discussing this with VIPS
- Chelle will email Shannon about this possibility and about possibly ordering (NFE Spirit Wear) bandanas