

Northvail School PTA Minutes 01/15/2020

President Cindy Collins called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. The meeting was held in the All-Purpose Room.

Attendance was taken by Corresponding Secretary, Ila Kessler.

Ila Kessler also reported on correspondence that was received:

Thank you to the PTA from Mrs. McDougall for the Teacher of the Year Gift from the 2018-2019 school year.

Thank you to the PTA from Mrs. Walsh for the baby gift.

Thank you to the PTA from Mrs. Masucci for the retirement gift.

Thank you to the PTA from Mrs. Stander for the holiday gift card.

Thank you to the PTA from Mrs. Stewart for the bereavement gift card.

Treasurer's Report - Jhalak Kapadia, reported by Maureen Hornecker:

Northvail Checking: \$30,622.53

Northvail Money Market Savings: \$5,859.73

Northvail Raffle Account: \$6.32

Old Business:

Ugly Holiday Sweater/ Pizza Dinner – Cindy Collins: The holiday dinner had a new theme this year with the ugly holiday sweaters. It cost \$10 for each person to attend and there were about 18 people. There will be another dinner for the end-of-the-year in June. It is an opportunity to get together and socialize, as well as to honor outgoing 5th grade parents.

Hope for the Holidays – Cindy Collins: Kendra Von Achen delivered a carload of new toys to Child & Family Resources of Morris County that was donated by the Northvail community. The organization collects the unwrapped toys and hosts a "holiday shop" for low income families to pick out gifts for their children. A video of the experience should be coming out shortly.

Holiday Concert DVD Recording – Danielle Blair/ Ellen Booker: The concert was recorded and the DVDs were sold. Danielle Blair burned 29 DVDs. They are still available to be burned if anyone is still interested. The PTA makes about \$1,000 selling the DVDs from the concerts and grade plays. Volunteers are needed to record and/or burn the first DVD. There is a multi-burner that can do several at a time, but help is needed with the original.

Clothing Drive – Yashika Gondhi: The clothing drive raised about \$362.44. For comparison, there was \$212.52 raised in the fall of 2018 and \$449 total for the 2017-2018 school year. Although there was an issue with the pick-up, arrangements were made for another vendor and the drive was successful. The next clothing drive will be held the week after Spring Break.

Holiday Shop – Susy Golderer: The Holiday Shop brought in about \$4,683.95 in revenue. After paying out \$3,084.16, the PTA was left with a profit of \$1,599.79. There is extra inventory available to sell next year. If the dates for next year are selected by February 15th, there are small incentives available such as a Kindle Fire that may be able to be raffled off. More volunteers are needed for next year.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee:

Mr. Martens – 3rd Vice President, Principal: Holiday parties went very well and everything was very organized. Mrs. Stander had suggested that non-perishables should be collected in the days prior to the parties and only perishables brought in the day of. This made it much easier for items to be delivered to each classroom. There is a new routine after class parties. Parents are now able to sign the children out with the teacher and it has worked out well. However, if there is another child in another grade, they must be still be signed out in the office.

There has been new playground equipment donated by a Northvail family. Extending the playground allowed for all existing equipment to remain.

Teacher Representatives – Mrs. Paterno: There is a need for more cost-per-student forms. Teachers would like to address an issue with snack sales. They are coming back to the classroom and finding students with multiple cans of sugary drinks and candy. It will be discussed within the Snack Sales committee prior to the March sales.

Teachers are reminded that they are invited to Pizza Bingo and to please RSVP so that pizza can be purchased for them and their families.

Fundraising – Yashika Gondhi, Vice President, reported by Cindy Collins: The Chipotle fundraiser was held on December 28th. There was no participation so there was no money collected. Buffalo Wild Wings will be scheduled for later in the winter.

Hershey Park sales are coming up. It will be approximately \$40-\$41 per ticket, instead of \$74.80 at the gate.

Smencils will be on sale soon. Erasers may be added to the sale. Penny Wars has been cancelled. There is a Grade Movie Event coming up next week for 2nd and 3rd graders to watch Abominable. Girl Scout babysitters and adult chaperones will be on-hand.

Cultural Arts/ Reflections - Vice President Desiree Lambo McGhie: Next week is the Sky Dome Planetarium assembly. Cliff Sunflower and Dancin' With the Honeybees has been rescheduled for March 25th.

Northvail had the most advancing entries to the county contest out of all the Parsippany schools. They included the following students:

Music Composition – Primary Division: Rayhan Mohammed, “Hope”
Music Composition – Intermediate Division: Clay Fitzgerald, “Within my Dreams”
Photography – Primary Division: Rishi Shah, “My Baby Sister”
Photography – Special Artist Davison: Jordan Kessler, “The Thinking Spot”
Visual Arts – Primary Division: Aditi Karkum, “I Am an Artist”
Visual Arts – Primary Division: Aashrita Takier, “To Serve the People”
Visual Arts – Intermediate Division: Chandhana Lingam Muhilan, “Mother Earth Needs a BETTER YOU”

5th Grade - 5th Grade Chair, Diana Mazzarella, reported by Danielle Blair: There was a pretty good turn out for the Frozen II and Star Wars 5th grade movie events. Each movie made about \$190-\$200. The money goes towards Moving Up, trips, and other 5th grade events. It does not cost money to host the movie event.

The cost-per-student letters went out. They outline the fees associated with the activities. There is a payment schedule available.

Standing Committees:

Classroom Volunteers - Natalie Chin, reported by Cindy Collins: Mr. Martens shared that there will be letters going out on Friday regarding Valentine's Day cards. Pencils, erasers, and stickers are all allowed, but no candy. Candy will not be distributed.

Half-Day Lunch – Angela Maione: Everything went smoothly. The next half-day lunches will be in March.

Snack Sales – Trish Weiss, reported by Maureen Hornecker: We will be seeking donations toward the middle or end of February for the March half days. The parents have been very generous and because of this, there has been a nice profit made for the PTA.

Library Volunteers – Trish Weiss, reported by Maureen Hornecker: There have been six new volunteer forms turned in. Trish emailed the parents and asked them come during their child's class any week in January in order to be trained by the parent who is scheduled for that week. Once they are comfortable, they will be added to the regular schedule starting in February.

Box Tops – Trish Weiss, reported by Maureen Hornecker: People keep sending in Box Tops. The latest ones received do not expire until 2022 so they will still be collected and sent in until they run out. There will be popcorn made for a few classes that have sent in 10 sheets. Arrangements will be made with the teachers. Trish is keeping the tally going at home since the sheets are dwindling.

Ice Cream – Cindy Collins: Volunteers are needed to serve. They are covered through January but need more for the rest of the year. It is about an hour commitment. Ice cream needs to be bagged for lunch aides.

Spirit Days – Cindy Collins: Spirit days will be discussed with Student Council in order to come up with some ideas for the remaining color days and for next year.

New Business:

Handling PTA Money – Cindy Collins: A money verification form must be used. There must be two people who count the money and sign off on it. The form includes the date, contact names, and everything is accounted for. The form then goes to the Treasurer. This is a safeguard to protect everybody involved. Money should be given immediately to the treasurer. There is a check/reimbursement form for anyone who needs start-up cash for an event or a reimbursement. Receipts must be attached for reimbursements. Both can be found in the treasurer's mailbox or Cindy can be emailed for a copy. For gradual collections, hand money over in stages so that money is not sitting for an extended period of time.

Third Grade Mural – Cindy Collins: It is school tradition for the third grade to paint a special hallway to be determined. There needs to be a parent volunteer or two to select dates and to help with the theme and ideas. Tanya Thoutreddy has volunteered to head the Third Grade Mural.

Board of Education – Cindy Collins: There are now two Northvail-connected Board members, Susy Golderer and congratulations to Kendra Von Achen. It is very important to go to the meetings and to check the website.

Pizza Bingo – Ila Kessler/ Maureen Hornecker: Pizza Bingo will be held on Friday, January 31st. It is \$10 per family to preorder tickets and \$12 for walk-ins. There will be no pizza sales on site unless there are leftovers. It is \$2 per slice or \$12 for a pie. The pajama spirit day is the same day so the children can come in pajamas. The forms are due soon.

United Nations Day – Cindy Collins: United Nations Day will be on Friday, February 21st. Volunteers are needed to come in and talk about their nation. It is a full-day commitment. Children spend about 5 minutes at each station. Each gets a mini-passport. It's a very interactive event. Volunteers share their culture, dances, money, etc. Mr. Collins will be there to help monitor.

School Counselor Appreciation Day – Pooja Shah, reported by Cindy Collins: School Counselor Appreciation Day will be on February 3rd. In order to honor Mr. Breiten, the PTA gives a gift. If the children want to make a poster to hang around the school, let Cindy know. Please encourage the children to write a special note, etc.

Baking Contest including 50/50 – Danielle Blair: Kids can bake and show what they create. It will be held on February 29th. There will be stations set up throughout the gym. There will be special volunteers as judges. The theme will be "Love." Flyers will be going home this week. There can be teams, but no more than 2 people per team. It will be about \$3 or \$4 for bakers/tasters. There will be a charge at the door for those who do not preorder.

Nominating Committee – Cindy Collins: Members are desperately needed to join committees and we are always looking for new volunteers. Treasurer is the largest opening and someone is needed ASAP. There will be a lot of openings the following year, including executive and chair roles.

Par-Troy Council – Desiree McGhie-Lambo: There will be two meetings in February that will be held off-site because the 3rd grade strings will have a 10-minute performance to start each meeting. The program will continue next year.

Northvail has 2 water fountains done being installed and still needs 1 more.

It is a district goal to address how students' mental health can be supported. There is a crisis counselor available on staff as well as protocol in place if a student has any challenges. Look at the district website for parent education regarding mental education – the heading is "Mindfulness."

Northvail was used as standard regarding financial paperwork and the step-by-step procedure was used as a model. Northvail's Standing Rules was also used as a model, as well as Northvail's reputation with Reflections.

Adult Trivia Night – Cindy Collins: There is a need for a trivia vendor and volunteers to organize. Mrs. Nichols conducted a survey last year that showed interest in an “Adults Night.” Help is needed and if anyone has contact with a trivia-hosting vendor, please advise. It would be preferable to host in the multi-purpose room, but off-site will be considered. The date would be March 28th. It would be a good for fundraising, but also great for bringing Northvail families together.

There is also a need for someone to help coordinate 50/50 raffle licenses in the future.

Discussion was had over parents being aware of development and getting involved in local government.

Important Dates

- 1/17 Spirit Day: Grade Colors
- 1/20 No School for Students
- 1/23 2nd & 3rd grade Movie and Ice pop Night
- 1/24 Cultural Arts Assembly – Sky Dome
- 1/31 Spirit Day: Pajama Day
- 1/31 Pizza / Bingo 6:30 P.M.
- 2/3 School Counselor Appreciation Day
- 2/7 Spirit Day: Blue & White / Sportswear Day
- 2/8 Pizza Bingo Snow Date
- 2/10 – 2/14 Smencil Sales
- 2/12 PTA Meeting
- 2/14 Spirit Day: Valentine’s Day attire
- 2/17 No School

Board of Ed meeting dates

Thursday, January 23, 2020	Dr. Frank A. Calabria Education Center	
Thursday, February 13, 2020	Parsippany Hills High School	
Thursday, February 27, 2020	Central Middle School Cafeteria*	
Thursday, March 12, 2020	Dr. Frank A. Calabria Education Center*	Tentative Budget Adoption
Thursday, March 26, 2020	Dr. Frank A. Calabria Education Center*	
Tuesday, April 14, 2020	Dr. Frank A. Calabria Education Center*	
Thursday, April 30, 2020	Dr. Frank A. Calabria Education Center**	Public Hearing & Adoption of Budget
Thursday, May 14, 2020	Dr. Frank A. Calabria Education Center	

Thursday, May 28, 2020 Parsippany High School**
Thursday, June 11, 2020 Parsippany Hills High School**
Thursday, June 25, 2020 Parsippany Hills High School**

All meetings start with Closed Session 6:30 PM, Regular Meeting 7:00 PM *Budget Discussion **Student and/or Staff Awards

Board Elections - Tuesday, November 3, 2020

Adopted: January 7, 2020

Next scheduled PTA Meeting – Wednesday, February 12, 2020, 7:00 p.m., All Purpose Room

Note: All Officers, Executive Board and Committee Members must become members of the PTA and pay a membership fee of \$8.00. Thank you!

Adjournment - Cindy Collins, President: Time End: 8:06 pm