

## Northvail School PTA Minutes 10/16/19

President Cindy Collins called the meeting to order at 7:00 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. Tangorra and Mrs. Penna for the reimbursements and the Back to School luncheon with gluten-free options.

Thank you to the PTA from Dr. Sargent for the Cultural Arts Assembly.

Thank you to the PTA from Mrs. Paterno for the books.

Treasurer's Report - Jhalak Kapadia, reported by Cindy Collins:

Northvail Checking: \$22,312.68

Northvail Money Market Savings: \$5,859.29

Northvail Raffle Account: \$6.32

Northvail Student Council Account: \$596.16

Books are being audited and submitted to the NJ PTA.

### **Old Business:**

Sunshine Fund – Ila Kessler: Mrs. Stewart's husband passed away this weekend. Will take up a collection to show our support and sympathy.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Executive Committee:**

Teacher Representatives – Mrs. Penna: Teachers are very pleased with weekly updates. Mrs. Penna informed the attendees that she is the representative for the union as well and is hoping to be able to inform the PTA about union happenings. Thank you to the teachers for helping with the SaveAround books. Each classroom teacher will receive a book once everything is finalized.

Fundraising – Yashika Gondhi, Vice President: Since SaveAround purchased KidStuff, finalizing of orders is different than it has been in the past. The amount raised is consistent with prior years.

Walk-A-Thon: The Walk-A-Thon was a huge success. Thank you to Mr. Hromoko and the parents who volunteered. There is about \$1,000 raised so far. This year, to save money, the leftover bingo blotters were used instead of stickers to identify student groups. Next year flags will be used to mark stations instead of balloons; they are more cost-effective and environmentally friendly.

Trunk-or-Treat flier went out. It is due 10/27. Families can decorate their trunks and children can come and trick-or-treat. This is a community-building event.

**Dine-Out:** Local restaurants will host a night for fundraising for the school. A few restaurants have been contacted and notices will go home when arrangements are made. Past events have usually made about \$50-\$100 per night which is about \$500 per year.

**Clothing Drive:** The same company as last year will be handling the clothing drive. The time period will be the same (during conferences). Fliers will be sent home on 11/1 and collection is tentatively starting on 11/21. Drop-off will be behind the curtain on stage. The company is looking for about 200 bags. In the past, each clothing drive (Fall & Spring) have made approximately \$200-\$250. Keep the clothing drive in mind during when cleaning out closets with the change of seasons.

**Cultural Arts/ Reflections** - Vice President Desiree Lambo McGhie: The first assembly, STEAM Museum, took place on October 11<sup>th</sup>. There were different stations set-up for the children to visit. Thank you to the teachers and parent volunteers.

The next assembly will be Dancin' with the Honeybees, given by Cliff Sunflower. There may be items for sale and there will be a need for many parent volunteers.

Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for Reflections. Please contact Desiree with any questions.

One of Northvail's Honorable Mentions from last year's Reflections program, Chandhana Lingam Muhilan, was chosen by the National PTA organization to represent NJ in a traveling museum that will start in Washington, DC.

**5th Grade** - 5th Grade Chair, Diana Mazzarella: The car wash made about \$450. Thank you to the volunteers that came out to help. Danielle Blair reported that there will be two fifth-grade movie fundraisers. The first will be Frozen 2 on December 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 10am so please arrive at 9am. The second will be the new Star Wars on December 21<sup>st</sup> (the day after opening). Please consider going to support the 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

### **Standing Committees:**

**Classroom Volunteers/ Halloween Parties** - Natalie Chin: There is a head parent for every class. Snacks for the parties have been picked out for most of the classes. The parade is at 1:40pm and the parties will begin at 2:10pm and end around 3:10pm.

**Ice Cream** - Ann Marie Stanziale, reported by Cindy Collins: Sales are going well and everything is running smoothly.

**Jr. Achievement/ Hospitality** – Tanya Bhattarai, reported by Cindy Collins: Breakfast was provided for the NJ Manufacturers volunteers who came out for Jr. Achievement Day. Thank you to Tanya for providing the breakfast.

**Holiday Shop** – Suzy Golderer, reported by Cindy Collins: A company will send items to set up a store for the students to make purchases for their family and friends. The shop should be open December 9<sup>th</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup>. There will be a need for parent volunteers to come in and help the children shop and make their purchases. The PTA will make a percentage of the sales.

Book Fair – Radhika Seth, reported by Cindy Collins: The Book Fair made \$3,786.43, not including online sales. Discussion was had over online sale duration, as well as book variety and selection.

Half-Day Lunch – Angela Maione: The half-day lunches are all set for November 22, 25-27, and December 20<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed to help distribute lunches on these days.

Snack Sales – Trish Weiss: Trish Weiss offered to run snack sales. There will be a Sign-Up Genius created for snack donations. The money will go to the general fund. June sales will still go to incoming 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

Sportswear - Jane LaPlace: The sale starts November 13<sup>th</sup> and will be delivered in time for the holidays. There are 6 items available. There will be online ordering in addition to paper order forms.

Par-Troy Council – Yashika Gondhi: Par-Troy Council consists of all PTA from all of the schools in Parsippany. Board of Education members and the Superintendent attend the meetings. The principals of the schools attend two meetings a year. They discussed the main goal of the Board of Education which centers on academic achievement, social and emotional learning, and professional learning for the teachers.

There will be gradual changes in the curriculum for the elementary schools. Details will be shared later. They discussed one-to-one electronic devices for 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Discussion was also had over the addition of strings to the music programs. They also discussed new mindfulness activities added to social and emotional learning such as yoga and meditation to help with cool-down and concentration. There was also discussion over professional learning for teachers and helping to enable them go through the training path that they would like to go down for their own professional development.

Special Education – The PEC meeting will be held November 12<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Northvail is still in need of a representative for this year.

Reflections – Northvail was mentioned during the meeting for having excellent participation.

Comments being allowed in PTA Facebook groups was discussed. There is further discussion needed and there may be guidelines issued by the Par Troy Council/Superintendent.

Finance – Parents who are teachers in the district should not take a treasurer post in the PTA, regardless if that is the school they work at or not. Any other position is fine. This removes any conflict of interest.

The next Board of Education meeting is on 10/17.

Spirit Days – Cindy Collins: October 18<sup>th</sup> will be sports days. Discussion was had over crazy dress days. They will be during Dr. Seuss week. Last year was cancelled because of snow.

Box Tops – Trish Weiss: There are 3 classes who earned popcorn parties. Please link your ShopRite card with Box Tops. Please remember to scan receipts in.

## **New Business:**

Concert DVDs – Danielle Blair: The first concert is on December 18<sup>th</sup>. Danielle can copy the DVDs but needs volunteers to burn the first DVD and possibly record it. Usually DVD sales are about \$1,000. Consider buying DVDs as a keepsake and as gifts for family who cannot attend the concerts.

Family Fun Night – Cindy Collins: About 80 children attended Family Fun Night with Marigold Mike. They learned facts and history about pumpkins and then they painted their own pumpkin to take home. Alumni from Northvail assisted by running carnival games and the children were able to bring home prizes that were leftover from other events. The night brought in about \$250, which is consistent with Family Fun Nights.

Pizza Bingo will be the next community event, followed by another Family Fun Night in the spring.

Board of Education – Cindy Collins: Please consider attending the Board of Education meetings. This year is an election year. Please consider voting in the November 5<sup>th</sup> election.

Northvail Website – Cindy Collins: Please check the website for valuable information. The Par-Troy School District app is also a useful tool for information. Everything is accessible through the app on a smart device.

Amazon Smile – Cindy Collins: Northvail can earn money through routine Amazon purchases if the shopping is done through Amazon Smile. Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and choose “1941 Northvail School PTA” as the organization to support.

Hope for the Holidays – Cindy Collins: Every year there are donations collected for an organization in order to help the children understand the benefit in giving as opposed to receiving. The past few years we have donated to Morris County Child & Family Resources. There will be further discussion on which organization to donate to this year. A toy drive will be conducted starting November 10<sup>th</sup> and ending on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## Important Dates

10/18 Ice Cream Served  
10/18 Spirit Day: Sports Day  
10/21 Reflections Entries Due Attn: Desiree McGhie  
10/23 & 10/24 School Pictures  
10/25 Spirit Day: Grade Color Day  
10/31 Spirit Day: Black & Orange Day  
10/31 Halloween Parade 1:40 p.m.  
10/31 Halloween Class Parties  
11/1 Spirit Day: Blue & White / Sportswear Day  
11/1 Ice Cream Served  
11/2 Trunk or Treat  
11/5 Election Day (Vote for Board of Ed Members!)  
11/5 No School (Students)  
11/7 & 8 No School  
11/9 Trunk or Treat Rain Date  
11/10 Hope for the Holidays Begins  
11/3 Sportswear Sales Begins  
11/13 PTA Meeting

## Board of Ed meeting dates

Thursday, October 17, 2019	Dr. Frank A. Calabria Education Center*	
Tuesday, November 5, 2019	Dr. Frank A. Calabria Education Center	
Thursday, November 21, 2019	Dr. Frank A. Calabria Education Center	
Thursday, December 19, 2019	Dr. Frank A. Calabria Education Center	
Tuesday, January 7, 2020	Dr. Frank A. Calabria Education Center	Re-organization

All meetings start with Closed Session 6:30 PM, Regular Meeting 7:00 PM

\*Budget Discussion

\*\*Student and/or Staff Awards

Next scheduled PTA Meeting – November 13, 2019 7:00 p.m.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee Meeting – November 13, 2019, 8:00 p.m.

**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: 7:58 pm