

Minutes from PTA General Board Meeting
January 14, 2014

Members Present: See attached attendance sheet

Call to order: Jennifer Tunnell, President

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of October 2013 General Board Meeting Minutes

Bond/Levy Presentation: Leanna Albrecht, NSD Communications Director

- NSD is the 11th largest school district in the state
 - large employer - approximately 2,000 employees
 - high academic performance - recognized statewide and nationally
 - high graduation rates, low dropout rates compared to statewide
 - financially responsible, as evidenced by the ability to get low bond rates
- Bond/Levy information
 - 23% of the district's current budget for educational programs and operating budget come from the levy - without it teachers will be laid off, class sizes will be larger, and programs such as music, drama, sports, and clubs may be lost.
 - The other levy supports the expansion of technology in the classroom.
 - The \$177.5 million bond is to build a fourth high school, address significant growth in the district, and replace aging school infrastructure.

Citizens for Northshore Schools Presentation:

- Statistics show that the majority of voters are not school parents.
- Need to increase voter turnout of school parents.
- Evergreen Freedom Foundation is an anti-union group that is campaigning against the school levy as a way to fight unions.

Nominating Committee: Jen Tunnell, President

- Open positions for the 2014-2015 PTA Executive Board are: VP Fundraising, Treasurer, VP Communications, and VP Membership.
- Motion made to nominate the following people for the Nominating Committee: Jenny Marenco, Amanda Lawrie-Hall, and Jen Guadagno. The following were nominated as Alternates: Beth Freeman-Hansen and Barbie Cole. Motions approved. No discussion.

Fundraising Update: Jen Tunnell, President

- No current major fundraising planned (Fall Ask was major fundraiser for the school year)
- Bellevue Ice Skating event was successful, raised \$39, compared to \$12 from last year.
- Next fundraiser is Date Night at The Commons in Woodinville - go for dinner on Tuesday, February 11th, mention you are there to support Sunrise Elementary, and The Commons will donate 10% of the money spent to the Sunrise PTA.
- Auction - due to no volunteer to chair the auction, there is no auction this year. There are several projects that are typically auctioned that are very popular (classroom projects, teacher experiences, and book signings). The Board discussed earlier in the year trying to accomplish these special projects and have them as fundraisers. Discussion among general membership resulted in majority expressing that these projects should be done as part of an auction event and not as stand-alone fundraisers.

Science Specialist Update: Jen Tunnell, President

- The cost of the Science Specialist is increasing - from \$25,000 (current year) to \$40,250 (per year starting 2014/2015 school year).
- Doug Hale explained the reason - the district used to allow us to pay for a less expensive teacher, and the district paid the difference plus benefits.
- The district is no longer willing to pay the difference although they will continue to pay the benefits.
- The Science Specialist is a grandfathered program. If the PTA is unable to fund the position for one year, then we will lose the specialist forever.
- If we did not have a Science Specialist, the curriculum would be taught by the teachers.
- The idea of a Science Docent program was suggested. Doug Hale said this was possible to have but may be difficult to maintain.

Mid Year Financial Review: Jen Tunnell, President

- A mid year financial review is due. We need 3 people to complete this review of the PTA's financial information.
- Jennifer Thomson volunteered.

Playground Improvement Committee: Julie Johnson, Secretary

- The district has rules for how bids are to be obtained and which companies can be used to replace playground equipment.
- The district will pay for new bark but all equipment (including the timbers that hold in the bark) must be paid for by the PTA.
- The Committee is looking at other school's recent projects and the cost.
- Motion made to add a line item to the budget for playground improvement, and to initially fund it with \$1000. Motion approved. No further discussion.

Social Events Report: Darin Benson, VP Social Events

- Bingo Night is February 7, 6-8pm. Need prizes and volunteers for set up and clean up.

Enrichment Report: Kelli Torrie, VP Enrichment

- Art Night is March 18. Need Chair to coordinate event.

Membership Report: Melinda Haeffele and Kristina Maltoni, Co-VP's Membership

- On track with 247 members currently, last year at this time we had 250 members
- Directories are out

Treasurer's Report: Phil Lucido, Treasurer

- Please see attached Treasurer's report and Program Profit and Loss statement for the month of December, 2013.
- Motion made to approve the Budget as laid out in the December Treasurer's Report for the 2013/2014 school year. Motion approved.
- December's activity:
 - \$5,607 in income, \$8,577 in expenses.
 - Cash on hand is down to \$157,458 from last month's \$160,427. Last month, I moved \$50,000 into the savings account, primarily out of the checking account, to see if that would boost our interest income. This was the first full month with the larger savings account, and the interest was significantly higher. We made \$36 in interest, compared to the \$17 that we were typically making.
 - The book fair was the largest income item this month, bringing in \$3,340, with expenses of \$2,144. Pending any further expenses, we made \$1,196 for the library's use. This includes a \$150 donation from the English Hill HOA Community Outreach. Note that any profit from book fairs is used only for library expenses, and any unspent profits are rolled over for use in later years.
 - The school play had some late income and expense items this month. We saw \$285 in further income, for DVDs, posters, and picture orders. Expenses were \$485 for printing of the play programs and posters. This brings the total play income to \$8,994, closely in line with the budgeted \$9,000, and total expenses to \$8,260, slightly over the budgeted \$8,200. I've got a pending expense of \$45 that will go out this month, so the final expenses will be about \$105 over-budget, and the play will have a profit of about \$690. Last year the play went \$356 over-budget, so this year was a bit more in-line. If you take out the cost of sound systems (rental last year, purchase this year), then last year's expenses were right at \$7,000, and this year's will be \$7,231. I'll have to check with Kim Norris on why non-sound system expenses were up \$231 over last year's, and whether the expense budget needs adjusting next year or should stay at the \$7,000 we originally set this year and last.

- We had \$880 in after-school enrichment tuition income for the winter session. We also paid the ASE teachers for the fall sessions, for our largest monthly expense of \$4,860. Last year's fall session expenses were \$7,020, so it looks like enrollment was down significantly this year (though last year was way above expectations). We won't lose money here, though – we charge \$5 more per student than we pay the teacher, so we're guaranteed a small profit no matter what the enrollment.
- In addition to the \$150 library donation I mentioned above, we also received \$460 in cash donations and \$200 in an employee match from Dell. The cash donations include \$200 from an unknown donor. The donation came in from Benevity.org, which is an intermediary through which donations can be made. Unfortunately, I can't view reports at their site to see who the check was from until they verify me, which involves some paperwork I haven't completed yet.
- There was \$170 raised for NHD via sales of the tote bags that Maureen Juenger designed. That's money that we'll hold onto for her use in NHD activities.
- Affiliate income this month was \$198 from Amazon.com, better than the \$150 we've been averaging a month. Also, though it won't show up until next month's report, a check from PCC was waiting for me when school resumed. That check was for \$1,729. The previous check was received in May, so this check averages out at around \$225 a month. This check will bring us within \$250 of the \$3,000 we budgeted in affiliate income for the entire year. If Amazon and PCC continue at their current averages, we should see around \$5,000 in affiliate income by the end of the financial year.
- We spent \$739 reimbursing Lona Sepessy for library purchases. That leaves her with \$1,226 in the Library line item, after which she can start spending against the book fair profits.

Meeting Adjourned

Next General Board Meeting: March 4, 2014