

## **PTA Meeting Minutes - October 2, 2023**

### **Durham Nockamixon Elementary School**

**Location:** Durham Nockamixon Elementary School, 41 Thomas Free Dr. Kintnersville, PA 18930

**Attendance:** Stacey Finney, Marie Collie, Amanda Dalton, Jaclyn Williams, Lorrie Campbell, Katelyn Bowers, Julie Greco, Jamie Guzzo, Melissa Chill, Maureen, Karina Applegate-Sinclair, Michael Sinclair, Jill Williams, Rosie Zalek, Brittany Steck, Kristy Love, Katie Short

**Meeting Called to Order By:** Stacey Finney, President at Durham Nockamixon Elementary Library 6:33 pm.

**Welcome!** Introductions by Board members and attendees.

**Treasurer's Report:** \$7931.15 in checking - over \$6K in savings, book fair to be reconciled, teachers' reimbursements have picked up this year. We are in good shape financially.

#### **Principal's Report:**

- Custodial appreciation day today! Staff & faculty love our custodians. We lost two custodians due to recent promotions and sent them notes to tell them how much they are appreciated. We are in search of two new custodians.
- PSSA results for 4th & 5th grade students went home in their backpacks.
- End of day pickup - We need to work on Kindergarten friends loading the passenger side of vehicle. Parents need to stay in their cars. Practice with your kids at home on how to get in the car on the passenger side and buckle their seat belts. If they can't get in quickly, slowly pull out and stop in front of the school to help them get into their seats.
- Firefighters visit was moved to Oct. 13th. We're really excited for this visit!
- The end of the marking period is coming Nov 1st. We'll be sending something out in this week's news. Report cards will be out shortly after. November 9th, 16th & 21st are scheduled for parent-teacher conferences. IEP teachers will be reaching out to parents.
- Back to School Night - looking for feedback from parents on what we would like to learn or know at BTS night. Participation was lower than typical. What do you want to get out of BTS night?

#### **Old Business**

**Membership Update** - 75 membership sign-ups to date. Send last sign-up request in next Monday's newsletter since the teachers and staff did not receive the first few emails.

**Fall Family Night Update** - So fun! A great time was had by all! The face painter was awesome. Extras were really fun to have. Lots of families came and parents connected. We sold out of hot dogs and did well with raffles. Great DJ! Having the music playing was an awesome idea. Please keep having these events.

**Book Fair Update** - Amazing! We had so many books there wasn't enough room on tables to display them all. We sold \$7000 worth of merchandise. In the past, we sold \$5400 and \$5200. The kids were so excited! \$1000 worth of eWallet accounts - way more than in the past. eWallet is becoming a more comfortable option for parents. Thank you to all our volunteers! Spring will be a BOGO sale.

**Birthday Celebrations** - At the last meeting we discussed the PTA providing treats for classes for students' birthdays. We feel it should be discussed and planned ahead of the school year so we capture as many birthdays in the year as possible. We decided to not move forward with this for this year but will revisit in the spring to plan ahead for next year.

**Box Tops** - Nothing to clip anymore! Goodbye cardboard box top pieces - they are no longer accepted for the program. [Download the app](#) and scan your grocery receipts - it's that easy! Sometimes there are bonuses from grocery stores where they will donate extra money to our school. Put this in the newsletter. Every little bit helps! Please reach out if you have questions - we can help get you started. <https://www.boxtops4education.com/s/get-the-app>

### **New Business**

**Room Parents/ Halloween Party** - Looking for a few more parents - 2 for Dalton, 1 for O'Boyle, 1 for Torres, 1 for Curry. Parade at 2:15 and then kids go back to class for the party. 1 hour long party.

**School Store** - First school store is this Friday! Typically open the 1st Friday of the month. Brittany & Rachel are running the school store this year. Kids can purchase up to 3 items with a \$5.00 spend limit.

### **Spirit Day this Friday!**

**Spirit Wear** - Items will be shipping out tomorrow. Hoping it will get here on time but not certain. We sold 85 items!

**Teacher Conference Dinner** - We always host a dinner for the teachers so they don't have to worry about where to eat dinner one of the nights of parent/teacher conferences. This year it will be Thursday, November 16th - dinner break is from 4:30 - 5pm. Setup begins at 4pm - everything must be at school by 3:30pm. There are 25 teachers to plan for. It will be a potluck! We will send out a Sign-up Genius to parents to sign up for whatever is needed. Entree, veggies, salad, dessert, drinks, plates, napkins, drinks, silverware, etc.

**Save the date- March 3<sup>rd</sup>- Community Event** - Mark your calendars! Phantom's Ice Hockey game in Allentown! Sunday March 3rd at 3pm. It will be a Family event with a set price of \$25 per ticket. They will send us a link and parents can purchase tickets on the site. Bring your own skates and enjoy a free skate session after the game! It's also the mascot's birthday celebration! More info to come.

**5th Grade Field Trip** - We were asked if the PTA was willing to help fund the 5th grade field trip. We can help out with a certain amount for each student. We are happy to help! Mrs. Collie will look into funding because they do have allocation in district budget to pay 100% of the trip costs.

**Next PTA meeting is a day meeting-** Nov 6th at 11:45 am. November and February meetings are at 11:45 am - 12:45 pm in the school library.

**Questions:**

**School wide positive behavior** - Mrs. Collie: "Will pta consider funding a celebration for kids?" Tickets that ambassadors give out to bus or car riders and they go into a raffle that's drawn every week (1 student) for incentives for good behavior. Teachers are looking for help with incentives for positive behavior in school and on the bus. Bus incentives are bus-wide if the bus wins. Fun-spirited kinds of things. They asked the kids for ideas - they tend to request edible treats. Looking for potential funding to help provide treats for the kids. About \$200 for the year to provide incentives for good behavior.

PTA President: "We can definitely look into the budget and let you know."

Respectful, Responsible, Safe. Bus drivers shared many concerns that K & 1st graders are having issues with being on the bus. They do bus drills with those grades to help them practice. The more we can do to help the bus drivers and parent pickup line the better.

Additional suggestion: Safety ambassador program for older kids to help guide little kids.

Can we do Pretzel day on Nov 3rd and also make it a school spirit day? Yes! If a child is gluten-free, PTA typically provides a certificate to the school store. Extra pretzels provided for teachers.

We received a thank you from the Kindergartners for putting in the trees outside!

**Meeting Adjourned at:** 7:20 PM

**Minutes Respectfully Compiled and Submitted by:** Julie Greco, Secretary

**Next Meeting:** Monday, November 6nd, 2023 from 11:45am - 12:45pm in the DN Library