

NHA PTO Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2016

Meeting called to order at 6:20 pm.

Prayer by Lacey Thornton.

Quorum verified by Demiko Aiken.

Minutes from the October 11, 2016 meeting approved as written.

State of the School Address by Lacey Thornton:

1. Thanks to PTO from Principal Joy for Harvest Festival. The event went well. Teachers appreciated the assistance with setup, clean up and prizes.
2. New School Video being shot by Mr. Abound. Parents who would like to contribute should speak with Mrs. Angela Eisenbart, NHA Art Director.
3. Adults Drum and Dance (African Drums and Percussion led by Adruma Victoria) at NHA \$10 Saturday, 12 Nov 16, 7:00-10:00 in MPR. Proceeds go to New Hope International Development Project to send medical supplies to Gambia.
4. Noris Tea and Beads @Principal Joys' house \$12 Sunday, December 4, 2:00-4:00. Proceeds go to New Hope International Development Project to send medical supplies to Gambia.
5. Parent Teacher conferences 22 Nov; Mandatory Pre K3-7, and specified conferences for grades 8-12th grades.
6. Thanksgiving break for NHA is from 22-27 Nov 16.

Financial Report by Aneesha Summerville:

1. Mrs. Summerville reviewed the financial report. Financial Report approved as written.

Old Business:

1. School Gift Ideas:
 - a. School Sign – \$1,000 set aside by the PTO for mounting; the wiring is complete. LED sign is ready for pickup. Mr. Otis Saunders will pick up the sign for installation.
 - b. Lockers – Principal Joy has the springs and other parts to repair lockers.
 - c. Hooks and privacy bins for the female restroom have been installed.
2. Car Wash/Bake Sale: The Car Wash held on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 from 11am – 3 pm went very well. Excellent parent support. The bake sale went very well.
3. Harvest Festival: The Harvest Festival was held on 29 Oct. from 11am-3pm. Overall, the event went well. Improvements for next year include a better PA system, and relooking the location of some events (dance event). Most classes were able to raise money. Hunted house was a hit,

raising over \$600. Additionally, discussed were the Harvest Festival pictures taken by Mr. Aiken; and resending the link via an email blast.

New Business:

1. Beautification Team: Seeking volunteers to assist school with school improvements. Principal Joy is willing to support co-opt hours for up to \$400 per year off of tuition.
2. Car Wash / Bake Sale held on Nov 5, 2016. SGA volunteers supported the event. SGA met every Tuesday with Ms. Janelle and Ms. Hughes. PTO will attend the SGA meeting to stress the importance of volunteering.
3. Walkathon scheduled for Nov. 19, 2016 at Lake Artemesia from 9am-12pm.
4. Holiday Wishes Grams for sale consisting of cards and candy. Weekly PTO table to provide information on upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and suggestions for school improvements.
5. Open Letter to Teachers: What do the teachers need in the classroom and what can the PTO help fund? PTO will draft a letter to the teachers to get an idea of the things that teachers need/want to do for their students in which the PTO could potentially support.
6. The PTO will not be sponsoring the spelling bee.
7. Zumba fundraiser in January
8. MLK Community Service: PTO sponsored community service event in support of the DC Central Kitchen. Lunches consisting of sandwiches and trail mix will be assembled the Friday prior to MLK Monday at NHA.
 - a) Question from a parent: Does the PTO require supplies for this event?
 - b) Response: PTO will send out a supply list.
 - c) Suggestion: Publicize event through the PG Gazette.
9. Discussion regarding changing African/Caribbean Night to International Night in order to be more inclusive and not make those from other countries feel left out.
10. Suggestion: Add website to the NHA PTO meeting agenda.

Open Floor

1. Request for Support (Mrs. Muhammad) The Great American Can Round Up to support environmental trip to Costa Rica. Aluminum can drive. The collection point is Mrs. Muhammad office; pickup day is Wednesday. She plans to start a classroom contest.
2. Ms. Aisha Faison discussed holding a Technology Sale in December to raise money for new computers. There is a shed full of older computers and netbooks to be refurbished to sell in order to fund new computers. Mr. H (parent) that does IT work will assist with the refurbishing effort. This is an opportunity for students to earn volunteer hours by assisting with the refurbishment of the computers. Requested advertising support from the PTO.
3. Ms. Beverly is holding Gambia Bazaar on Dec. 9, 2016 (2:30 to 6:30pm). She offered to do a joint event with the Technology Sale. Requested advertising support from the PTO. Discussed the name for the event – Gambia Bazaar and Technology Sale.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.