



NORTH BARRINGTON
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

PTO Meeting Minutes

February 25, 2019

Attendees: Angela Toscas Gordon, *President*; Amy Vandenberg, *1st VP Fundraising*; Ilana Forbes, *2nd VP Service*; Kristie Rogers, *3rd VP Special Programs*; Sara Roach, *Secretary*; Courtney Olson, *Treasurer*; Austin Johnson, *Principal*; Jaime Lindsey, *Teacher Liaison*; Marilyn Lawlor & Kourtney Sellers, *North Barrington Environmental and Health Committee*; Mary-Kate Harazin; Rebecca Patchak; Christy Parkinson; Betsy Thalheimer.

1. **Welcome/Call to Order:** *Angela Gordon*. The meeting was called to order at 9:26 a.m.
2. **Principal's Report:** *Austin Johnson*.
 - a. *February Fury:* Thanks to the PTO for all the fun parent and student events in the past few weeks! From Donuts With Dad and the Blue Jean Ball for the adults to the Horseshoe Redemption Event for the kids, thank you for your support in volunteering, donating and attending these events.
 - b. *Upcoming Testing:* CogAT testing for 2nd and 5th graders is ongoing, and will be completed this week. The Illinois Science Assessment (5th grade only) will be given on March 12. MAP testing (grades 2-5) will be done from April 4-10. The IAR (Illinois Assessment for Readiness), previously known as the PARCC Test, will be given from April 23-May 1.
 - c. *Parent-Teacher Conferences:* Spring conferences are scheduled to occur on March 20 from 4-8 p.m. and March 21 from 3-7 p.m. Parents will receive a link to sign up through the program "Meet the Teacher" on Friday, March 1. There is not enough space for every parent to receive a conference. However, if you do not receive a spot and you would like one, teachers are always happy to meet with parents any time.
 - d. *Referendum Meetings:* If you would like to become more informed about the school district referendum question on the April 2 ballot, the School Board is hosting two upcoming information sessions. The first is at Prairie Middle School on Monday, March 4 at 9:30 a.m., and the second is at Station Middle School on Wednesday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m.
3. **President's Report:** *Angela Gordon*.
 - a. *Adult Social Debrief:* Angela and the meeting attendees praised the Blue Jean Ball's execution, decorations and overall vibe! Angela presented gifts to the Blue Jean Ball Co-Chairs Ilana Forbes and Amy Vandenberg. Jaime Lindsey stated that the teachers had a wonderful time, as well, and they especially appreciated how some parents "sponsored" teachers by paying for their tickets.
 - b. *Middle School Activities and PTO Involvement:* Christy Parkinson would like all 5th Grade parents to consider joining their middle school PTO – committee recruitment is ongoing right

now. The two schools have combined social events such as a 6th Grade pool party and social, and a 7th-8th grade social. All of these events (as well as the school fundraisers) need parent volunteers.

c. *Village of North Barrington Environmental and Health Committee:* Marilyn Lawlor and Kourtney Sellers presented NBS with a \$600 grant! The grant was to be used to construct raised garden beds, but PTO Garden Chair Stacey Laschen received a \$2,000 grant from Whole Foods for this purpose (thanks so much, Stacey!), so the money will be directed toward other environmental initiatives at NBS. Marilyn and Kourtney praised the NBS composting program. A meeting attendee asked whether the Village of North Barrington has a food scrap recycling program. Marilyn replied that North Barrington does not have an independent program, but interested residents can sign up for food scrap and organic matter recycling for a monthly fee through Prairieland Disposal.

d. *Horseshoe Redemption Event:* The PTO received very nice thank-you notes from students for providing hot cocoa to the Horseshoe winners. The Horseshoe Redemption Event for February will be a raffle.

e. *Pancake Breakfast:* March 16 from 8-11 a.m. We need both attendees and volunteers. This year, the proceeds of the Pancake Breakfast will be donated to the NBS Playground project. Please contact Angela Gordon or Amy Vandenberg with questions.

f. *Family Fitness Night:* March 7 from 5:45-7:30 p.m. P.E. teacher Andrew Evelo is spearheading this event. Want to help out? Contact Ms. Evelo at aevelo@barrington220.org.

g. *Fun Run.* Save the date for May 4. More details coming soon! If you would like to be part of the planning, please contact Betsy Thalheimer at bets82@gmail.com.

h. *Bedtime Stories.* The NBS Reading Team's Bedtime Stories on February 7 was an around-the-world wonderful success. About 80 people showed up to enjoy having stories read to them by their favorite teachers, as well as a skit by BHS students.

4. Treasurer Report: Courtney Olson at courtney@p2binc.com. See the copies of this month's budget.

5. Secretary Report: Sara Roach at s-roach@att.net. Christy Parkinson made a motion to approve the Minutes of the December 17, 2018 PTO Meeting. Courtney Olson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. 1st VP Fundraising Report: Amy Vandenberg at amykballet@gmail.com.

a. *Adult Social Initial Debrief:* Amy Vandenberg and Ilana Forbes reported the live auction items raised double the amount estimated! The class baskets raised about \$3,730, the Teacher Treasures raised about \$3,390, and the wine/bourbon pull and the back-pocket raffle raised about a combined \$6,000. You can still help the PTO expand the playground by purchasing a tile for our Sponsor Tile Wall. Talk to Amy or Ilana for details.

b. *Spring Book Fair:* Make plans to attend the Book Fair on March 13-16. This year's theme is "DINO-MITE: Stomp, Chomp and Read!" Watch for a volunteer Sign Up Genius.

c. *NBS Dines Out:* The spring Culver's Dine Out is set for May 6 from 5-8 p.m.

- d. *Box Tops*: Keep clipping, because the spring collection is coming soon.
7. **2nd VP Service Report**: *Ilana Forbes* at ilanamorgan@gmail.com. Ilana reported that the date for Field Day has changed to May 31st. To help plan, contact Field Day Chair Krista Sprungman at ksprungman@gmail.com.
8. **3rd VP Special Programs Report**: *Kristie Rogers* at rogers.kristie@gmail.com.
- a. *Justin Roberts Author Visit*: Sara Roach reported that the Justin Roberts musician/author assemblies for K-3rd Grades were well-received.
- b. *Mini Courses*: Betsy Thalheimer reported that the mini-courses are off and running. The most popular class this year is Crossfit!
9. **4th VP Family Outreach Report**: *Angela Gordon* for the absent *Julie Kircher* at tkirjir@aol.com.
- a. *Spring Family Fun Night*: The tentative date is April 26. Want to help with the fun? Contact Jackie Kardesh at jkardesh@kidsandcompany.com.
- b. *Gallery Night Recap*: About 560 people attended Gallery Night to celebrate our children and art. We sold just over 300 framed pieces and netted about \$1,400! The remaining pieces can still be purchased (framed) through February 27. To purchase, send a check made out to the NBS PTO with your child's name and teacher's name, and deliver to the NBS front office.
- c. *Donuts With Dads Recap*: About 430 kids and Dads enjoyed over 600 donuts, juice, coffee and fruit on February 14. Thanks to Courtney Olson for the idea and execution!
- d. *Spring Spiritwear Sale*: Mary-Kate Harazin reported that the sale will start on March 1. Watch your e-mail for details!
10. **Adjournment**. Angela Gordon adjourned the meeting at 10:56 a.m.