



NORTH BARRINGTON
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

PTO Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2019

Attendees: Angela Toscas Gordon, *President*; Amy Vandenberg, *1st VP Fundraising*; Ilana Forbes, *2nd VP Service*; Kristie Rogers, *3rd VP Special Programs*; Julie Kircher, *4th VP Family Outreach*; Sara Roach, *Secretary*; Courtney Olson, *Treasurer*; Austin Johnson, *Principal*; Jaime Lindsey, *Teacher Liaison*; Tami Garcia; Katie Grimm; Stacey Laschen; Maria Palumbo; Becca Patchak; Megan Reiting; Kimberly Saunders; Nikki Schriever.

1. **Welcome/Call to Order:** *Angela Gordon*. The meeting was called to order at 9:20 a.m.
2. **Review of District 220 Referendum in Upcoming Election April 2:** *Austin Johnson and David Bein, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services*.
 - a. *Improvement Priorities:* Mr. Johnson reported that the first priority of the \$185 million referendum is to improve safety and security at all the schools in the district. This includes removing the mobile classrooms outside Prairie and Station Middle Schools and Grove Elementary School, as well as improving front door check-in security where needed. The second priority is to update classrooms. This includes flexible seating, STEM learning locations, movement/sensory rooms, and improving the kitchens and cafeterias (including the layout). Mr. Bein added that the District is rebidding for its food vendor this spring. The third priority is to maintain investment in school buildings (HVAC, roofs, plumbing & electrical). The fourth priority is to update the educational and community spaces for arts and athletics.
 - b. *Referendum Tax Impact:* For a home worth \$250,000, the homeowners' tax burden would increase \$50/year. For a home worth \$500,000, the homeowners' tax burden would increase \$100/year. For a home worth \$750,000, the homeowners' tax burden would increase \$150/year. For a home worth \$1,000,000, the homeowners' tax burden would increase \$200/year. Mr. Bein stated that Barrington would still have one of the lowest tax rates in comparable school districts.
 - c. *Questions & Answers:* Mr. Johnson confirmed that the District is reaching out to people who do not have students in District 220, as well. This is being done via signs and mailers, as well as appearances at Rotary Meetings, the Garlands of Barrington, and Lake Barrington Shores, as well as a Facebook Live appearance. All persons running for seats on the District 220 school board agree with the idea of a referendum. The new persons who are elected would be wedded to the referendum question when deciding how best to implement it. If the referendum is passed, improvement construction would take place over three years. It would take about one year to plan the improvements before they would begin, and there would be about one year of finishing-up post-construction. The flexible seating would be set up sooner.

d. *Playground Construction*: The District has pledged to provide an “adequate playground” for each elementary school going forward, when the school’s playground reaches the end of its useful life. The playground funded by the NBS PTO Blue Jean Ball (which is separate from the District’s pledge) will be constructed this summer.

3. President’s Report: Angela Gordon.

a. *Pancake Breakfast (took place March 16)*: About 300 NBS’ers attended, and they ate about 1,000 pancakes and 40 pounds of sausage! The PTO grossed about \$1,200. The profit from the breakfast (anticipated to be about \$1,000) will go toward building the NBS playground.

b. *Fun Run (Saturday, May 5 at 8:15 a.m.)*: The Fun Run theme this year is “Warrior Run,” and will include an obstacle course. Everyone can start and finish this race, and there will be music and snacks.

c. *Staff Appreciation Week (May 6-10)*: This year’s theme is “Around the World – Destination: Appreciation! We think the WORLD of our NBS Staff!” Watch for a letter from your Room Coordinators outlining events to engage your children during the week. Door Decorating will be Friday, May 3 at 3:00 p.m. If you would like to help decorate your teacher’s door, or the doors of staff without doors or a single class, please talk to your Room Coordinators. Stay tuned for a Sign Up Genius to help during the week, as well as a detail of the week’s activities and fun. Plans include a gelato bar, three meals including a breakfast, and raffle prizes. Your Staff Appreciation Week team is Courtney Olson, Kimberly Saunders, Tami Garcia, Kelly Niese, Julie Kircher and Angela Gordon.

4. Treasurer Report: Courtney Olson at courtney@p2binc.com. Courtney distributed copies of the PTO Budget as of February 28, 2019. The Executive Board will be presenting the budget for the 2019-2020 school year for approval at the April PTO Meeting.

5. Secretary Report: Sara Roach at s-roach@att.net. Kristie Rogers made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 25th 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 (took place February 23)*: The Adult Social Blue Jean Ball grossed \$75,351.17, and the net as of today is \$54,535.56. Final numbers will be forthcoming. Julie Kircher asked Amy Vandenberg and Ilana Forbes if they could point to any particular decisions that led to their success. Amy Vandenberg stated that the planning team chose a cheaper venue (Makray Memorial Golf Club) than in previous years, and that the venue also had more capacity, which allowed additional ticket sales. Having a DJ instead of a band was also a cost saver. The live painter, Elliott From, brought in amazing amounts of money at the live auction. The cause – raising money for the playground – was also one that parents could easily rally around. Finally, the relaxed vibe of the event contributed to higher bids. You can still buy tiles to support the playground – see the link in the latest PTO newsletter.

b. *Spring Book Fair (took place March 13-16)*: The Dino-mite Book Fair was a great success once again thanks to Maria Palumbo, Jenny Brauch and Kelly Niese. The Fair’s cash profit is about \$3,000 as of today. Maria Palumbo reported that the e-wallet was a big success.

c. *Box Tops*: The collection deadline is May 1. Make sure to put your child's name on the bag of box tops before you turn them in, so your child's classroom gets credit. The top three winning classrooms will receive prizes.

d. *NBS Dines Out (Culvers on May 6 from 5-8 p.m.)*: Save the date!

7. 2nd VP Service Report: *Ilana Forbes* at ilanamorgan@gmail.com.

a. *Earth Week at NBS (April 16-20)*: Check out the PTO newsletter for all the fun activities the Recycling Team has planned for Earth Week.

b. *Earth Day at Eton Park (April 28 from 12-3 at Eton Park)*: The Village of North Barrington is celebrating Earth Day with music, games, and the Lorax!

c. *Field Day (May 31, with rain date of June 3)*: The Field Day team has great plans underway. Save the date, as we will need many volunteers.

8. 3rd VP Special Programs Report: *Kristie Rogers* at rogers.kristie@gmail.com. Kristie reported that the PTO 2019-2020 slate is currently being filled. Be a voice on the PTO and volunteer. We are also always looking for second chairs for every position. Available positions will be posted in the newsletter.

9. 4th VP Family Outreach Report: *Julie Kircher* at tkirjkir@aol.com.

a. *Spring Family Fun Night (April 26)*: Get ready for LUAU NIGHT! DJ Jason, a Lake Zurich firefighter, will be the musical host. There will also be snacks, craft tables and more. Hawaiian shirts and luau gear encouraged!

b. *Gallery Night*: The Gallery Night post-show sale is over, and the evening netted \$1,100 for the PTO.

10. Raffle Basket: Tami Garcia won a fantastic Rodan & Fields basket full of skin care supplies.

11. Adjournment. Principal Johnson added that all NBS'ers are invited to the District 220 STEM Night, to be held at NBS on May 8 from 6-7:30 p.m. Angela Gordon adjourned the meeting at 11:16 a.m.