



NORTH BARRINGTON
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

PTO Meeting Minutes

April 15, 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*; Lisa Bauman; Jennifer Brauch, Rochelle Colella; Tami Garcia; Mary-Kate Harazin; Stacey Laschen; Becca Patchak; Megan Reiting; Kimberly Saunders; Nikki Schriever; Angie Schwartz; Krista Sprungman.

1. **Welcome/Call to Order:** *Angela Gordon*. The meeting was called to order at 9:23 a.m.
2. **NBS Senior Walk Information:** *Rochelle Colella, Former NBS Parent*. Rochelle is going to spearhead an expanded Senior Walk celebration on May 29, with help from current NBS parent Marija Waller. During the Senior Walk, which is in its 3rd year in District 220, high school seniors can return to their elementary schools, parade through the hallways, socialize with their former teachers, and inspire the next generation. This year at NBS, there will be a cake, Jimmy John's sandwiches, and other fun touches to welcome the graduates. Rochelle will be funding the celebration and does not require the PTO to recruit volunteers for the event, but would appreciate the PTO's support. The PTO agreed to help publicize the event, and we will stay tuned to see if there are other ways that we can help.
3. **Principal's Report:** *Austin Johnson*.
 - a. *IAR ("Illinois Assessment of Readiness") Testing:* The Illinois Board of Education replaced PARCC with IAR. The scores have a great impact on the school's rankings and reputation, so please have your students participate in the testing process.
 - b. *Building Improvement & Staffing News:* Over the summer, Mrs. Barry's classroom will be revamped to make it more acoustically sound, and the sound quality will also be revamped in the multipurpose room. The new playground construction is on track. The District is currently working to improve the drainage in the playground area. Next school year, there will be four sections of fourth grade in addition to the Chinese Immersion sections. The identity of the new fourth grade teacher is still undecided. There will also be three kindergarten sections next year.
 - c. *Volunteer Luncheon & 5th Grade Recognition Adjustments:* Due to low attendance in previous years, the NBS staff are looking into ways other than a luncheon to honor parent volunteers – perhaps something at Field Day. The 5th Grade Recognition ceremony will no longer be an all-school assembly due to space constraints, although siblings of 5th graders will still be able to attend.
4. **Teacher Liaison Report:** *Jaime Lindsey*. The staff is eagerly anticipating Staff Appreciation Week! The staff would prefer that the outside of their doors be decorated, rather than the inside.

5. President's Report: *Angela Gordon at leinadeneg@aol.com.*

- a. *Budget:* We will vote on the budget at our final PTO Meeting on May 20.
- b. *Garden Committee:* The Interactive Habitat Committee is now three committees, each with its own chair and budget: the Prairie (chaired by Liz Bromet), the Pond & Courtyard (chaired by Amy Vandenberg, Rosanna Klusmeyer and Eric Kardesh), and the Harvest Garden (chaired by Stacey Laschen).
- c. *Fun Run (Saturday, May 4, 8:15am):* Save the date, and stay tuned for a Sign Up Genius for food and volunteers.
- d. *Staff Appreciation Week (May 6-10):* The theme this year is Around the World – “Destination: Appreciation! We think the WORLD of the NBS Staff!” Door decorating will take place May 3 after school. Each pod has a door-decorating theme. The lobby will be decorated like an airport. If you would like to decorate for a staff member who does not have a door or who does not have a single class, let your Room Coordinator know. Teachers can look forward to food such as a Mexican taco bar, Chinese takeout, and an Italian buffet. There will also be raffles throughout the week with fabulous prizes. Stay tuned for a Sign Up Genius to help make this trip a success.
- e. *Final PTO Meeting (May 20, Lindy's Landing, Wauconda):* Plan to join the fun as we formally introduce and welcome our new Executive Board and bid farewell to our outgoing Executive Board and Chairs.

6. Treasurer Report: *Courtney Olson at courtney@p2binc.com.* The Adult Social earned approximately \$53,000 for the PTO! The Executive Board will be presenting the budget for the 2019-2020 school year for approval at the May PTO Meeting.

7. Secretary Report: *Sara Roach at s-roach@att.net.* Kimberly Saunders made a motion to approve the Minutes of the March 18 PTO Meeting. Becca Patchak seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. We also bid an extremely fond farewell to Kristie Rogers, 3rd VP Special Programs and tireless and super-creative Yearbook chair. The yearbook is finished and will be ready for signatures on Field Day.

8. 1st VP Fundraising Report: *Amy Vandenberg at amykballet@gmail.com.*

- a. *Box Tops (collection deadline May 1):* Keep snipping and sending in Box Tops. The top three winning classrooms will receive prizes.
- b. *NBS Dines Out at Culvers (May 6, 5-8pm):* Come have dinner at Culvers with your family. There will again be an attendance contest with a custard party for the winning classroom. Check in with a PTO member in the restaurant or a drive-through employee in order to be counted. Scoopie will also be visiting NBS to get kids excited.

9. 2nd VP Service Report: *Ilana Forbes at ilanamorgan@gmail.com.*

- a. *Earth Week at NBS (April 22-28):* The Recycle Team has fun and informative activities planned for Earth Week. Students should wear green on April 22, and there will be coloring pages to take home on April 23 and color for a prize.

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. NBS'ers who attend will receive a horseshoe.

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. Field Day Chair Krista Sprungman reported that an extra rotation will be added this year for third graders, to accommodate the large class.

d. *Harvest Garden Update*. Stacey Laschen obtained a grant from Whole Foods for \$2,000! Stacy reported that the PTO will be using the majority of the grant raised garden beds. These will replace the Three Sisters Garden that the third graders planted last year. Whole Foods has provided lesson plans to help integrate the garden beds into the curriculum, and we are hoping that the Habitat Parents who volunteer in each classroom at the beginning of the year can help with the teaching process, as well as coordinating volunteers throughout the year. The 5th Grade Horticulture Club also plans to help. Kelly Niese is creating wonderful signage. Start thinking about a name for the garden, as there will be a naming contest. To get the garden ready, we will need lots of hands to help haul the dirt, as well as volunteers during the summer. Cuba Township is hopefully providing us with free dirt soon, and Midwest Compost is offering us a discount on compost. Stay tuned for information on how you can help.

10. 3rd VP Special Programs Report: *Kristie Rogers at rogers.kristie@gmail.com*. The Nominating Committee (Nikki Schriever, Karson Maxey, Melissa Gerber and Jackie Kardesh) have worked hard to recruit volunteers and submit the PTO 2019-2020 slate. Angela Gordon made a motion to approve the PTO 2019-2020 slate, and Tami Garcia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Kristie Rogers offered insight about open slate positions, and we are also always looking for second chairs. Available positions will be posted in the newsletter. Special Teacher Projects Chair is a newly created position, to help teachers with special events such as Bedtime Stories.

11. 4th VP Family Outreach Report: *Julie Kircher at tkirjkir@aol.com*.

a. *Spring Family Fun Night (April 26, 5:30-7:30pm)*: RSVP 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. *Munchkins with Mom (May 16, before school)*: The kids and dads had such fun at Donuts with Dad, and now Moms will have a special day, as well. Stay tuned for how to RSVP.

12. Open Discussion. Meeting attendees, including Amy Vandenberg and Stacey Laschen, brainstormed about possible fundraising projects for next year, such as a read-a-thon, walk-a-thon, or a school-day fun run.

13. Adjournment. Angela Gordon adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.