

Niwot Elementary School's PTAC General Meeting Minutes Tuesday November 10, 2015

OPENING:

The meeting was called to order by President Donna Blondeau at 7pm with 62 members present (23 staff; 7 board).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of the October 2015 meeting were reviewed and approved as posted.

Note: This month's PTAC meeting was an abridged version that followed Mrs. Pitz' Parent Information Celebration Meeting held at 6pm. The focus was giving the members a brief overview of the PTAC budget, including highlighting our expenses and income, expense and income categories, income sources, and the priorities of the PTAC and NES. In closing, the floor was opened for Q and A.

PRINCIPAL REPORT: Presented by Nancy Pitz, Principal

Mrs. Pitz Parent Information Celebration Meeting was held at 6pm.

Link for slideshow presentation is here: [Niwot Parent Information Meeting](#)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Presented by Donna Blondeau, PTAC President

The Executive Board was introduced.

- PTAC Executive Board Members
 - Principal - Nancy Pitz
 - Teacher Representative - Pilar LaFaye (5th grade)
 - President - Donna Blondeau
 - Vice President - Joyce Frailey
 - Vice President of Fundraising - Riki Frea
 - Treasurer - Bobbi O'Donnell
 - Recording Secretary - Julie Jensen
 - Communications Secretary - Patricia Lady

FUNDRAISING REPORT: Presented by Riki Frea, V.P. of Fundraising

Link for slideshow presentation here: [PTAC General Meeting - November 2015](#)

Highlights:

Slide 3: Expenses and Income Pie chart

Expenses - 51% of budget: Salaries for Para-professionals

Income - 36% of budget: Income from donations (Cougar Campaign & Corporate matching).

As you can see from the pie chart, we have to make up 15% in Income to cover the Para-professionals salaries.

Slide 4: Expense categories of PTAC Budget

- Para-professional salaries and benefits
- Teacher and staff support
- Differentiation
- School Support
- For the Kids!
- PTAC Services and Activities
- Family Events and Programs
- Operating Expenses
- Building our Volunteer Base

Slide 5: Income Sources of PTAC Budget

- Fundraising - Donations (Cougar Campaign, Corporate Matching)
- Fundraising - Activities
- Community Events
- Corporate Cash
- Other

Slide 6: 51% of our Budget pays for our Para-professionals and comes from Donations.

- Para-professionals in the classroom:
 - Reduce the impact of growing class sizes
 - Benefits ALL students in EVERY grade
 - Allows for *Differentiation*
 - Sets NES apart from all other schools in SVVSD
- Cougar Campaign donations: #1 to meet our goal

Slides 8-10: Other sources of Income to reach budget goal

- Niwot Trot
- Book Fairs
- Spirit Sales
- Directory (Corporate Sponsorships)
- Dining for Dollars
- Silent Auction
- School Supplies
- Corporate Cash
 - King Soopers and Safeway reloadable cards (5% back to NES)
 - Target Red Card (1% back to NES) This program ends in April.
- Box Tops for Education
 - 1 box top = 10 cents
 - Last year we earned \$3000 from Box Top collecting
- Online Shopping
 - AmazonSmile - 0.5% back to NES
 - Goodshop.com - up to 20% back to NES

Questions and Answers:

Parent: My child isn't able to participate in the Tuesday and Thursday 100 mile club. Is another day going to be added in the future?

Mrs. Pitz: We are looking into adding another day in the future. As we were looking into which days to hold the 100 mile club, every day had a conflict. The teachers are paid for their time, and we have funding for that. So, adding another day would mean we would be relying on volunteers.

Please remember there are sanctioned events held on the weekends. Those miles will contribute to the students overall miles. Please see Coach Strah's website for more information.

This is our implementation year, so next year, we will take all of the feedback as the plan is made for the 2016/17 school year.

Parent: Why has soccer at recess been taken away?

Mrs. Pitz: It is not gone forever, but it is on a break. There are different levels of soccer players in every grade and putting those soccer players together is like a perfect storm. Right now, it has not been taken away, but during the break, its an opportunity to have conversations with the kids about the game.....why are we taking a break? what could we do better?

Parent: Does the SVVSD Board member want to give us any information on the Fall 2016 Bond?
Board: We're planning a Bond for Fall of 2016 that is a Tax Raise. It is still in the planning stages but the Bond is being proposed to account for Growth in the district and maintenance and upkeep or "Refreshing" current buildings. By August of 2016, details will be in place. Best guess the amount to raise will be somewhere around 200 million.

Parent: Is it an option to opt out of PARCC testing?
Mrs. Pitz: We don't know at this time.

CLOSING:

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Jensen, *PTAC Recording Secretary*
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