

Niwot Elementary School's PTAC General Meeting Minutes Wednesday January 20, 2016

OPENING:

The meeting was called to order by President Donna Blondeau at 7pm with 9 members present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

PRINCIPAL REPORT: Presented by Nancy Pitz, Principal

2015 PARCC Results and Highlights

ELA - We scored above the state and district average at all grade levels.

3rd Grade: 69% Meet & Exceed, 39% State Average, 41% District Average

4th Grade: 78% M&E, 42% SA, 45% DA

5th Grade: 81% M&E, 40% SA, 46% DA

MATH - We scored above the state and district average at all grade levels.

3rd Grade: 55% Meet & Exceed, 37% State Average, 41% District Average

4th Grade: 53% M&E, 30% SA, 34% DA

5th Grade: 56% M&E, 30% SA, 34 DA

We had the highest scores in the district in 3rd, 4th and 5th in ELA.

We had the 3rd highest scores in the district in math in both 4th and 5th Grade.

We far exceeded the nationwide PARCC average for ELA and Math.

2016 Assessment window: April 11 - April 22

TEACHER REP. REPORT: Presented by Pilar LaFaye, 5th Grade

Discuss and vote on IXL proposal.

The PTAC board would like to amend the 2015-16 budget to include allotting \$450 to go toward half the cost of IXL Adaptive Learning Software. The software is to be used for individualized math homework assignments for our 5th grade students. The other half of the program cost will be paid for with NES school funds. 5th grade teachers and students will pilot the program to determine if it is a good fit for all-school use. Please go to <https://www.ixl.com/> for more information on this exciting program.

IXL for math was approved for \$450.

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

[Link](#) to presentation including a financial update.

GRASSROOTS ST VRAIN PRESENTATION: Presented by Hadley Solomon

Vision:

Our vision is a St. Vrain Valley school community that is informed about education funding in Colorado and empowered to take action for the benefit of our schools.

Mission:

- To communicate current facts about education funding in Colorado
- To promote informed decision-making on both state and local school finance issues
- To provide opportunities for participation in education funding decisions that impact the school communities of the St. Vrain Valley

[Link](#) to video: Bottoms Up: Why Education Funding in CO is a Grassroots Effort

Of particular interest to GSV are the conversations about the state budget and a potential initiative addressing TABOR limits that might appear on this year's November ballot. More information can be found on both of these topics in their "[State Budget to Dominate 2016 Legislative Session](#)" post.

GSV will continue to track this legislative session and share information with the SVVSD community so that voters can make informed decisions in November.

TRIP TRACKER REPORT: Presented by Marni Ratzel

Winter Bike Week is coming up January 25-29th. Log 4 or more Trip Tracker trips in January and receive 1 Bonus Tracker Buck. If you bike to school on Wednesday 1/27 Longmont will have free breakfast stations open 7-9 am.

Trip Tracker Registration and school competition

- As of Dec. 3 NES has 171 students and 4 staff-teachers registered.
- Our goal is register 279 students and 9 staff.
- We'd like to increase registration as BoCo is encouraging friendly competition between Trip Tracker participating schools to see who can achieve the highest registration rate by year end. Currently, we are in 4th place (out of 5 schools).

Student Tally data collection

- All Trip Tracker schools are required to conduct another student tally survey in April.
- The Student Tally dates were January 12-14th and coming April 26-28th.
- We also need to conduct another parent survey in April. Distribution date is April 12-13th.

Actions requested from PTAC/NES

- Boulder County is applying for another SRTS grant, which was due on Jan. 8. It would extend the program for at least another school year, if they are awarded funding, BoCo will be seeking a letter of support from NES soon. Marni worked with Nancy and the Dean of Students last year to finalize a letter.
- BoCo is working with Bike Longmont to host a Bike Rodeo for the NES community in the spring. Marni is seeking suggestions on a date and a potential community-based event that we could collaborate with (piggy back on) to schedule our Bike Rodeo. Or we could do it at school outside on the black top. Ideas are welcome.
- Boulder County also is working to schedule an "Active School Neighborhood Checklist" meeting – which would include a team that walks around the neighborhood and/or meets to discuss potential infrastructure improvements to increase safety and access to/from school. Marni is requesting an update from BoCo on the status of this.

CLOSING:

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Lady, *PTAC Communications Secretary*
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