

Nitrauer Elementary PTO Meeting Agenda

September 2017 PTO Meeting:

September 19, 2017

Present: Dr. Wendy Hancock (Principal), Patrick Murphy (teacher rep), Maggie Foley, Janet Campbell, Amy Hartz, Mary Papadimitriou, Kim Romano, Jessica Whitley, Christina Perez, Rebecca Martin, Mary Ann Drolet, Sharon Kemmlein, Lauren Westcott, Sheila Harrison, Alex Massie, Angela Salabsky, Esther Curran, Elizabeth Roda, Deborah Gunter, Christina Lott, Diana Everhart-Hanna

Meeting called to order at 7:00PM

Welcome:

Janet Campbell/Maggie Foley

- All parents/guardians of children at Nitrauer Elementary School are welcome to attend PTO meetings. All present introduced themselves to the group.

Treasurer's Report:

Amy Hartz

- Amy distributed a report listing actual income and expense for the last 2 school years as well as the 2017-18 budget with an opportunity for all members to ask questions. In response to a question on fundraisers, it was explained that the major fundraiser at Nitrauer is the Race for Education, which is a bi-annual event. Other sources of funds include Friendly's Night and Boxtops for Education. Our budget has been sufficient enough that a new line item was added: "Major Gift to Nitrauer." The PTO and Dr. Hancock discuss needs at Nitrauer to determine where these funds will be allocated. During the current budget year the PTO has budgeted funds for Technology Needs, the Teacher Lounge Renovation and Teacher Grants.

Principal's Report:

Dr. Hancock

- Dr. Hancock relayed a message from all teachers expressing gratitude to the PTO for the faculty lounge renovations.
- Dr. Hancock discussed the School Messenger system that is utilized for communication. It is very important that all students have updated emergency contact info on file in order to receive these messages as well as other "emergency" calls such as those coming from the nurse. PTO information and updates will be included with the "Nitrauer News" email sent weekly from Dr. Hancock. Jessica Whitley sends weekly PTO updates to Dr. Hancock so please send Jessica any information you need included in the Nitrauer News.
- Dr. Hancock reported there are now 23 classrooms in the building. An additional 3rd grade classroom was added for the current school year.

Teacher Representative Report:

Patrick Murphy

- Mr. Murphy expressed heartfelt thanks from all the teachers regarding the updates to the faculty lounge.

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SLAC Representative Report:

Kim Romano and Mary Ann Drolet

Kim and Mary Ann updated the group on the first SLAC meeting that was held on Sept. 18. It was explained that 2-3 representatives from each school in the district attend the bi-monthly SLAC meetings with Superintendent Dr. Felty. District wide updates are shared with the group and the SLAC members report back to the PTOs.

- New wires were added to all buildings to increase the bandwidth. Currently, I-Pads were given to 3rd, 5th, 7th, and all High School Students. Only High School students are allowed to take them home. Technology support and instruction is provided to the teachers on ways to use I-Pads as an enrichment piece to lessons being taught within the classroom.
- Middle School construction project: The project is moving forward now as it was voted and approved by the current school board. However, there is a chance the project could be halted if a new school board is elected in November and voted to stop construction. An informational meeting, as part of Act 24, will be held at the Middle School on October 10.
- Dr. Felty is initiating a “Student Voice” panel this year. Similar to SLAC meetings, 2 principal selected students from each grade (5th-12th) will meet with Dr. Felty for discussion and district updates.
- Multi-tiered support: additional support for kids of all levels (academic and behavioral) was added to all buildings. Additionally, clinical classrooms have been identified in each building. All teachers have the opportunity to observe the clinical classrooms to get new ideas on strategies for academics and behaviors.
- STEAM labs added to some of the schools. Nitrauer does not currently have a “lab” due to space issues. Faculty are also brainstorming ways for STEAM labs to be mobile.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Fall Fest: Kim Romano reported that the Fall Fest will take place on October 26 (5-7pm). The Fire Department helps to organize the parade route. Kids can dress up for the Fall Fest parade but nothing violent. Dr. Hancock is requesting help from any dads who are willing to assist in leading the parade and preventing the kids from running ahead. Food Trucks vendors, Scoops and Sprout Stream, will be available. There will be some small activities such as face painting, popcorn machine, and bake sale.
- Spirit Wear: Christina Lott reported that Nitrauer t-shirts will be available for purchase during the month of October. Additional items such as tattoos and key chains may be added. Cornerstone Business Graphics is being used for Spirit Wear. A flyer will be sent home with information. There will also be an on-line store available.

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- Book Fair: Janet reported that Book Fair will take place the week of Nov. 27 and volunteers will be needed. It was explained that during the school day students come to the Book Fair and complete a "wish list." Volunteers help students with writing this list. The Book Fair will be open at night for families that wish to come back with their students. In addition, on Thursday, students will have an opportunity to bring money to school to buy books during the school day.
- Holiday Craft Corner: Flyers will be sent home in October. Those who wish to participate pre-order items from Jen's Pottery Den and then come to the Nitrauer cafeteria on December 2 to paint pottery.
- Bi-Laws: Amy reported that the Bi-laws have not been recently updated. The Executive Board will review the Bi-laws and bring any suggested changes to the next PTO meeting. A vote on any changes would take place during the PTO meeting the month after suggested changes were discussed.

Other Announcements:

- School Musical information meeting on October 17 at 7pm.
- Please note the changes to upcoming PTO meeting dates/times as follows:
 - October PTO meeting will October 17 at 6pm.
 - November PTO will be November 28 at 7pm.
 - There is no PTO meeting in December.