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**Niantic Center School**

**PTA meeting**

**Meeting Minutes**

**October 11, 2017**

**Attendance:** Jenna Bristol, Colleen Cochrane, Kellie Hayes, Jayme Keefe, Jennifer Miele, Nicole Papuga, Priti Patel, Jeff Provost, Cristin Rivera, Dawn Rodes, Jill Sisk, Kelly Streich, Lynn Sullivan, Meredith Swanson, Maia Vargas, Lauren Walling

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Maia Vargas at ­­­­­­6:40 P.M. This motion was seconded by Dawn Rodes.

**Principal’s Report:**

* Picture day is Monday.
* Teachers are being surveyed three times this year about how things are going with the new, district-wide schedule.
* Some additional items have been identified that need to happen during the renovations to the elementary schools. All fire alarm systems must be replaced per the Fire Marshall. This will be an additional cost of $500,000 per school. A 5.7 million dollar contingency fund exists with respect to the upcoming renovation project. There was good news about Lillie B. Haynes School. It was originally thought that the septic system was not good. Cameras were used to inspect the system. All the damage is outside the building. All inside pipes are good. This will be easier to repair. There will also be some savings with the oil tanks. There are some savings in some areas, over-expenditures in other areas.
* When NCS is renovated, there will be a “Beachy wave motif”, but the fish will no longer be on the outside of the school.
* Lexia was set up this week. Reading Plus is on-going. Lexia logins will go home to each child. These logins will remain the same for as long as we have the program in district. RAPID Assessment – part of Lexia – will be used to screen students and provide data.
* It was asked when redistricting would happen. Mr. Provost did not think this would be able to happen before the beginning of the next school year. Still hasn’t been determined.
* Someone asked when construction would start. Mr. Provost said that holes have already been dug for soil samples and construction people have been inspecting walls for asbestos so preliminary things are already happening. The first shovel is scheduled for June 30, 2018. There may be changes necessary to the school calendar in order to accommodate. More information to follow.

**President’s Report:** Big thank you to:

* Meredith Swanson for organizing Grandparents’/Special Persons’ Day.
* Kellie Hayes for organizing the PTA closet like never before and for chairing the Book Fair.
* Nicole Papuga for organizing the new pasta fundraiser.
* Dawn Rodes for organizing the 4th grade t-shirts.

-ASAs – After School Activities - the three elementary schools are NOT doing the After School Activities. The logistics (getting subs, fingerprinting, etc.) are extensive and are unmanageable at this point so it is off the table. Unfortunately, the money the PTA would earn through this would be approximately $3600.

-We also were not able to do the Mum fundraiser this year. The distributor of the mums is no longer doing this. This is also a loss of approximately $750.

-It is our hope that the NEW fundraisers will help to make up for the losses listed above: talent show, bake sale, pasta sale, batteries, “Shop and Bop”.

-Pumpkin Jog-a-thon has not been rescheduled yet. It was canceled due to rain on Columbus Day. Trying to confirm the use of the track at the high school.

-Stop & Shop Rewards were discussed along with coordinating this program. It was suggested that a sign at Stop & Shop with the school codes for people to sign up would be helpful (this is on display in another store – NOT East Lyme). Jennifer Miele said she would be willing to ask at Stop & Shop.

-Whenever we have a PTA event, there is a new form “NCS Event Evaluation form” which should be completed by the chairperson of the event. Blank forms will be left in the PTA mailbox in the office. The binder with completed forms will be kept in the PTA locker.

**Vice-President’s Report:** Nothing to report

**Treasurer’s Report:** Dawn Rodes, treasurer,reviewed the NEW budget sheet. We currently have $4,805.31. Just a reminder, from this point on, if we are planning an event where we anticipate more than 100 people to be in attendance, we must pay a $50 fee for Mr. Chuck to provide security.

**Teachers’ Reports:** No teachers in attendance

**Book Fair/Square One Art/T-shirt Fundraiser Updates:** Kellie Hayes

* The Book Fair has been busy.
* Square One Art artwork has been sent back to the company. Order forms will return in 2 weeks.
* T-shirt fundraiser is currently underway. All orders are due by next Wednesday.

-It was suggested that Grandparents’/Special friends’ Day be moved to the Wednesday after Columbus Day so people are more likely to remember. Having the event on the Tuesday after the holiday is difficult for many volunteers, visitors, and for people who may forget to donate items.

**Pie Update:** Jayme Keefe – Julie Dowling just sent out a reminder about the return date: 10/16. Delivery is scheduled for 11/13. Jayme is looking for assistance in sorting the pies when they are delivered on 11/13. Delivery will be around Noon. It was decided that the checkbook will stay with Maia Vargas while Dawn Rodes is traveling so a check can be written to the driver.

**Directory presentation:** Meredith Swanson

Meredith investigated two companies, MobilArq and My School Anywhere. Both cost about $300 a year. This is a way for the PTA to manage contacting parents without needing to involve the office.

* My School Anywhere – offers all that MobilArq has but ALSO has a way for parents to sign-up for upcoming events (in lieu of Sign-Up Genius). We can create a website just for PTA events that can be linked to the school. This is a secure site. The company does not sell participants’ names. We could also do online PTA memberships. Parents can use PayPal. We paid $292.51 for the paper directory last year AND we needed to have someone type everything. Dawn Rodes entered a motion to vote on approving the appropriation of $298 to purchase the membership for My School Anywhere. Lynn Sullivan seconded the motion. All members were in agreement.

**New Fundraisers:**

* “Shop and Bop” - Maia Vargas:

This event will take place on Friday, November 10. This will hopefully help to make-up for some of the lost revenue from ASA’s and mums. This will be a shopping fundraiser with a percentage of all sales going back to the PTA. Key Club members from the high school will provide child care for a fee of $5 while parents shop. There will be organized activities and a movie room. Coffee and soda will be available for purchase as well as a bake sale. Direct sales companies have been contacted to be present that evening. Some companies are:

-Pampered Chef

-Lula Roe

-Thirty-One

-Premiere Jewelry

- Usborne Books

- Jamberry Nails

-Norwex (maybe)

-Sign-up for Stop & Shop Rewards.

If you know any other vendors, let us know. All parties will be open the Wednesday before the Shop and Bop and will remain open for a week after. This event is open to the public.

* Veteran’s Day - Maia will contact Big Y again. They donated food for the veterans last year. Flanders Fish also donated chowder. Chris Irvin from food services offered to prepare beef stew for a fee. PTA will continue to pursue donations instead.
* Amazon Smile – Niantic Center School PTA is signed up on Amazon. When you shop, choose our organization so we can earn .5% on all applicable purchases. Be sure to sign up when doing your holiday shopping.
* Pasta fundraiser - Nicole Papuga – Fun Pasta Fundraising has specialized pasta and assorted food items. 40% of the total amount sold will come back to the PTA.
* Battery fundraiser - Maia Vargas – Batteries will be needed for the holidays. The prices are comparable to Amazon Prime for the same batteries. The PTA will earn 40% of the profit. The PTA is looking for someone to chair the battery fundraiser. The company will send us all the information. It will be posted in the digital backpack that we are looking for someone to chair this fundraiser.

**Halloween Bingo:** Fourth grade parents are in charge of running the bake sale. Set-up and breakdown help for this event is needed.

**Old Business:** Janet Klos – won the Mixed Bag drawing from Open House.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40.

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**Agenda**

**November 8, 2017**

1. Principal’s report
2. President’s report
3. Vice President’s report
4. Treasurer’s report
5. Teacher’s report
6. Bake Sales
7. Sign-up Genius
8. Shop and Bop
9. Budget update
10. Calendar
11. Veteran’s Day
12. Wreath Sale
13. Old Business