

Noah Webster Academy

Parent Organization Meeting Minutes

Monthly Meeting (1st Thurs of the month)

Call to order: A monthly meeting of the NWA Parent Organization was held on Dec. 3, 2015.

The meeting convened at 8:00am, President Caradon Bowen presiding, and Kimberly Kay, secretary.

Members in attendance:

Members not in attendance:

Approval of minutes: Motion was made by [name], and seconded to approve the minutes of the _____ [date] meeting. **Motion carried.**

Points of Discussion:

1. [Project Self Esteem]

Feedback from the kids... Not a lot
Consider revamping for next year.

Suggestions / Comments:

Trim it down, scale it back, There does not seem to be enough time to get through thru the entire lesson.

Less academic, Actions on paper seem to be difficult for some students. Use of classroom board will also cut down on expense of copies.

Have kids give verbal rather than written responses, (especially for the lower grades.) Some are already doing this.

Allow the volunteer/parents to work out scheduling with the teacher for greater flexibility. The question was raised as to continue the journals.

Motion: Moved by Caradon that journals are no longer to be a part of the program.

Motion carried. It was decided **not** to continue with the journals. It was concluded that this action would cut down on time and expense.

Concluding remarks: While some "tweaking" is still needed, over all, this project is going well. Every class is covered and Caradon asked for continued feedback from teachers and parents. Any suggestions for continued growth and improvement are always appreciated.

2. [Red Ribbon Week]

Feedback from the kids...YES
Need more communication for next year to the parents.

Suggestions / Comments:

Younger grade teachers communicated that there was some frustration from the students. They need more help and guidance.

The older kids were the Light of the show.

Concluding Remarks: It was well worth all the effort and money.

3. [Spirit Day]

Feedback from kids.....LOTS!

Spirit Day was a huge hit.

Suggestions / Comments:

Spirit Day was a huge hit. Lots of pictures were taken and a lot a great feedback from all.

4. [Cookbook]

Suggestions / Comments:

Target of 300+ recipes was reached.

Pre-sale price set at \$13.

Launch of sale of cookbook in March 2016. Books not pre ordered will sell for \$15.

Gift certificates for the NWA Cookbook are available (great Christmas gift idea)

5. [Parent Lunch Days]

Suggestions / Comments:

It's going well, lots of participation.

6. [Year Book]

Suggestions / Comments:

Parents who have pictures of classroom parties or activities or school events or pictures taken on fieldtrips are asked to submit them for use in the yearbook.

7. [Land Trust]

\$1000 per grade has been designated for fieldtrips.

We must justify the use of this money.

Suggestions / Comments:

It was suggested that an easy 5 question quiz be taken by the kids at the end of each fieldtrip to show the educational value of the fieldtrip.

Also, pictures should be takes from the fieldtrip.

These actions would satisfy Land Trust requirements as justifiable use of these funds.

8. [Stocking Stuffers]

A Christmas gift card program for teachers.

Suggestions / Comments:

Gift cards are for teachers to restock their classroom, not personal use.
Teachers must turn in receipts of classroom supplies purchased with gift card.
Donations can be turned into the office.
Donations made can be designated as to where those funds are to be applied.

9. [Science Fair]

The morning of January 21, 2016
Caradon to meet with 5th-6th grade teachers

Suggestions / Comments:

There is a great need for MORE judges. Volunteer judges do not need to be scientists in order to participate as a judge.
More information and details need to be given and made available to the parents.
Tweaking is needed for smoother, easier transition.
It also needs to be more organized.
Caradon will have more info for next meeting.

10. [Audio Equipment]

New Audio equipment is needed.
Land Trust money will be used for its replacement.

Suggestions / Comments:

The equipment we have now is 10 years old and is no longer reliable.
We will be start getting quotes soon.
It is unknown at this point if the Land Trust will contribute or pay for all of the new audio system.
The P.O. may also contribute but it is too early to determine if that will be necessary.

11. [Playground Equipment]

The playground equipment will be upgraded soon. We are waiting for the matching grant money.

12. [Restaurant Fundraiser Week]

January 25th-29th, 2016 (and in April)

Pizza Pie Café has been good to us.

Suggestions / Comments:

Motion: Moved by Caradon that we should offer more choices of restaurants this time around.

Motion carried. The “YES” vote was unanimous.

The following is a list of various local restaurants that offer fundraisers, as suggested by the attendees of this meeting.

Zoup

Chick Fil A

Applebee's

Costa Vita

Papa John Pizza

Pizza Pie Café

Action Items: (No offered to take this on at this time. It should be brought up again at the next meeting)

It was suggested that we look into other retail stores that offer monies to schools.

Macy's offers money and others do as well.

More investigation is needed to find out what we can do to get NWA on more lists of contributing local retailers.

Caradon opened the floor for other topics to be covered...

A concern over school tee shirts was brought up by several attendees. The issue was addressed as follows:

Suggestions / Comments:

Several attendees' commented that the NWA logo tee shirts were too expensive and unattractive.

It was suggested to no longer use tee shirt sales as a fundraiser but rather to encourage school spirit. Caradon agreed and stated “We just need to break even.”

Other suggestions made,

Offer navy hoddies and zippered sweatshirts that kids can wear to school.

Simplify the logo to offer a lower price.

Make other school uniform colors available. Lite Blue was strongly suggested.

Make pre-orders available.

Caradon adjourned the meeting.

When is next meeting: January 7, 2016

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 am.

Respectfully Submitted by



[Kimberly Kay P.O. Secretary]

Approved by

Date of approval

[Caradon Bowen P.O. President]

[Noah Webster Academy Parent Organization]