



Northstar Middle School
PTSA General Meeting
Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Attendance: Sarah Redford, Michelle Olson, Andy Berg, Malissa Dahlstrom, Brenda Xiong, Adam Keeton, Ashley Sinette, Misty Schmidt, Leah Waldie, Kari Zarecki, Nicole Hoernke

Meeting Minutes:

1. Welcome/Introductions/Overview of School Year – Misty Schmidt
2. Secretary's Report – Nicole Hoernke
 - a. Review and Approve August 2023 Meeting Minutes which were provided via email and posted on ECASD website. No changes were made to August minutes. Malissa Dahlstrom motioned to approve, and Michelle Olson seconded the motion for approval.
3. Treasurer's Report/Proposed Budget Review – Malissa Dahlstrom
 - a. Review of proposed 2023-2024 budget changes (increase in Concessions Income by \$200 & Restaurant Fundraiser Income by \$1,000, reduction of Nature Trail and School Beautification expense by \$200, increase in 8th Grade Celebration (Picnic) expense by \$100, addition of SCRIP software expense of \$79, removal of Community Outreach expense of \$300, Postage expense of \$50 and PBIS of \$200)
 - b. Malissa proposed approval for the updated 2023-2024 Budget, Brenda Xiong made a motion to approve, and Michelle Olson seconded the motion for approval. All unanimously approved.
4. Principal's Comments – Adam Keeton
 - a. Good start to the school year and activities on the 1st day of school (camp middle school with grade level meetings, pep rally, mock bell schedule)
 - b. Devices are all handed out to students
 - c. Fall sports are up and running and after school clubs starting in October
 - d. STAR testing (Math & ELA) – to set growth targets for students
5. Northstar Edible Classroom Comments – Sarah Redford
 - a. New garden beds just ordered with a cost of \$647.88. \$352.12 left in budget for this year.
 - b. Fundraiser through Seymour Ball Park this Sunday to make approximately \$900 (4 North kids and 5 Northstar kids to work)
 - c. There are 12 committee members now for Edible Classroom

6. Old Business:

- a. Bylaws – Ashley Sinette proposed to approve 2023-2024 Bylaw updates (good for another 2 years). Brenda Xiong motioned to approve, and Malissa Dahlstrom seconded the motion for approval. All unanimously approved.
- b. Back to School Night – went well.
- c. Open Committees – Edible Classroom (1-2), Parent Volunteer Committee (1), SCRIP (1), Staff Appreciation Week (2) and Concessions (3-4). Kari Zarecki is new FAC Committee Member.

7. New Business:

- a. Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities – Fall Polar Party on Oct 27th, Mile Run on Oct 10th and 11th, Family Teacher Conference Meals on Oct 12th
- b. Family Teacher Conferences – need meal/food volunteers
- c. Food Program – there are flyers available for those interested
- d. Concessions (Cross Country, Boys Soccer, Girls Tennis, Girls Volleyball, Football) – J. Jablonske is working on getting Q1 schedules set and will be working on getting volunteer signups ready and out
- e. Membership Committee – Members thus far are 19. Need to send out information to teachers and incorporate requirement of PTSA membership to receive “mini grants”
- f. SCRIP Program Update
 - Will have someone at a table at Family Teacher Conferences to help people set up Raise Right.
 - Northstar made \$35 in July, \$28.15 in August and \$22 in September from the Program.
- g. Upcoming Restaurant Fundraisers
 - See “Agenda Addendum A” for updated list. Still working to fill May and June 2024.
 - Michelle Olson suggested possibly having food trucks and Family Teacher Conferences as a fundraiser.

8. Teacher Comments:

- a. 6th Grade – Michelle Olson – See attached.
- b. 7th Grade – Brenda Xiong
 - A weekly communication via email is being sent out on Mondays with weekly assignments that teachers can update “live”
 - During Resource time teachers are showing students how to check Canvas and Skyward regularly and how to prioritize workload
 - Laptops need to be charged daily and updates ran
 - “Thank you” to parents
- c. 8th Grade – Meg Linder – No report.

9. Student Comments – No reports. Student Council will meet at the end of September to select student reps.

10. Family Advisory Committee (FAC) Summary – Jessica/Brook – No updates. First meeting is October 3rd.

11. Adjourn

2023-2024 Executive Board and General Meetings. Mark your calendar now!

- ~~Tuesday, August 08 – Executive Board Meeting~~
- Tuesday, September 12 – General Meeting
- Tuesday, October 10 - Executive Board Meeting
- Tuesday, January 09 - Executive Board Meeting
- Tuesday, February 13 - Executive Board Meeting
- Tuesday, April 09 – General Meeting
- Tuesday, May 14 – General/Executive Board Meeting & End of Year Celebration

Notes/Reminders:

- All Meetings are open to everyone! All meeting times are at 6:30 p.m.
- Executive Board Meetings are held in the staff lounge.
- General Meetings are held in the Commons.

Your attendance is important! We have many new items being voted on throughout this school year; and need enough members at each meeting in order to call those votes. If you are unable to attend, please call or email:

- Misty Schmidt (Call or Text: 602-576-6237 or email at NorthstarPTSA@gmail.com)
- Ashley Sinette (Call or Text: 715-338-5242 or email at NorthstarPTSA@gmail.com)



**NORTHSTAR
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

EDUCATING CHILDREN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

**September 2023 • Agenda Addendum A
Restaurant Fundraisers 2023-2024**

- **September 2023**
 - Tuesday, September 5, **DQ Pinehurst**, 4pm-9pm
 - Tuesday, September 19, **Panda Express**, 10:30am-9pm (*Includes online pick-up & in-person orders*)
- **October 2023**
 - Tuesday, October 3, **DQ Pinehurst**, 4pm-9pm
- **November 2023**
 - Tuesday, November 7, **DQ Pinehurst**, 4pm-9pm
 - November 1-30th (all month), **Fazoli's**, (*must present a Northstar voucher when ordering*)
- **December 2023**
 - Tuesday, December 5, **DQ Pinehurst**, 4pm-9pm
 - Thursday, December 14, **Panera**, 4pm-8pm (*must say you're from Northstar @ checkout*)
- **January 2024**
 - Tuesday, January 2, **DQ Pinehurst**, 4pm-9pm (*falls over winter break*)
 - Tuesday, January 16, **Panda Express**, 10:30am-9pm (*Includes online pick-up & in-person orders*)
- **February 2024**
 - Tuesday, February 6, **DQ Pinehurst**, 4pm-9pm
 - Tuesday, February 20, **Panera**, 4pm-8pm (*must say you're from Northstar @ checkout*)
- **March 2024**
 - Tuesday, March 5, **DQ Pinehurst**, 4pm-9pm
 - Tuesday, March 19, **Burrachos**, 4pm-8pm (*must say you're from Northstar @ checkout*)
- **April 2024**
 - Tuesday, April 2, **DQ Pinehurst**, 4pm-9pm
- **May 2024**
 - Tuesday, May 7, **DQ Pinehurst**, 4pm-9pm
 - **More details coming soon!**
- **June 2024**
 - **More details coming soon!**

September 12, 2023 Grade 6 update

Family Connection: If you have questions or anything you would like to discuss with Northstar regarding your 6th grader's experience – all staff have open lines of communication, but if you are looking for a “go-to” person for your child - our grade level Resource teachers would be an excellent person to help clarify something &/or connect their questions/requests to other staff. Elementary and a “homeroom” teacher, but now with so many teachers – know if it is okay to use the Resource teacher like a “homeroom” teacher if you are not sure who to ask about something.

Technology Connection: Reminder that CANVAS is like the “classroom” & SKYWARD is the “gradebook” for our classes. Some are already confused with grades in two places for some classes and not knowing what is their “report card” grade/progress.

Organization of Materials/Routines. Backpacks are a little heavy & hard to cram in lockers – sharing strategies for lessening their load &/or working out how to organize/carry materials. Most students don't use the binder on their supply list. If they're using the binder – consider traveling throughout their day without their backpack.

Lunch Account: For first-time Northstar families – checking student activity on their lunch account is a good idea...a la carte options can deplete the balance quickly. 😊 You have the function to shut that off for your student if it becomes a problem and you would like more control.

Laptops: Please have students charge laptops nightly and bring charger to school each day with them. Even though they may have enough charge to make it through the day, some updates that we have students run require being plugged in.