

Northampton High School PTO Minutes June 2014

In attendance

Ruth Ever

Wendy Bernstein

Monica Green

Geri Kleinman

Tammy Maginnis

Sharon Saline

Megan Zinn

1. Approved minutes from May 2014 meeting

2. Approved slate of officers for 2014-2015 school year

Wendy Bernstein – Chair

Monica Green – Treasurer

Carrie Goldstein – Secretary

Still need a co-secretary as backup. Will address this in the fall.

3. Treasurer's Report

Monica plans to keep the book in Quicken.

Eat for Education earned approximately \$5000. This is less than last year, but still good.

\$1300 was spent on teachers' grants

Restocked spirit wear

\$700 has come in so far for Honor Thy Teacher

Currently \$25,000 in the bank, expecting \$2000 from Honor Thy Teacher

Expenses recommended for approval

Chrome book cart – quote has been \$8770

More document cameras at \$1000 total

Brings technology spending to \$15500

Spending approved.

4. Honor Thy Teacher

Wendy, Geri, and Monica will send acknowledgements to teachers. They will aim to have letters ready for the last day of school.

5. Teacher Wish List

Discussed providing parameters for teachers – determining which kind of requests go on wish list and which requests should be teacher grants.

Recommended that any request for an enrichment project or activity costing more than \$250 should be a grant, anything less should be on the wish list. The wish list instructions will include examples of both.

6. Community Building Events

State of the Technology Event: Successful. 20 people attended. Lee Feldscher wrote a summary, Ruth or Sharon will edit for posting on the website and for the listserve. Recommend doing it again next year, combined with a tour of the technology.

Rachel Simmons event: Successful. Recommend doing similar tech related events each year. Ruth suggested Jennifer Michaels, who speaks on the effect of technology on the brain. Perhaps once in school for kids and once in the evening for parents.

7. Recap of meeting with NEF and PTO leaders. Those who attended found the event useful.

Consider partnering with Northampton Education Foundation for professional development to accompany the new technology.

8. PTO Website

Tammy saved all the content in the fall, so we have something to start with to seed a new site.

Tammy will help to develop new site. We could use Google, but it is limited. Alternatively, may have PTO pay for another platform to host a site. Plan is to have people be able to self submit events to the blog – make the website as self-sufficient as possible.

Communications committee will work on a site plan.

9. PTO Logo Contest

Will invite students to submit logo designs. Designs due by July 11. Winner will get a \$50 gift card to the Guild.

10. Newsletter

Plan to move the newsletter to a weekly e-blast. Monica will follow up with Bryan about getting access to the school email list.

Wendy will look into using the Google form that Angelo made to gather emails.

Proposed that PTO go to early faculty meeting to explain our plans for the website, wish list, and communications.

Tammy will follow up with Nancy Whalen-Viola about overseeing the blog – potentially coordinating with others.

11. Final business

Thank you card for Barbara Solow – *Gazette* schools reporter who is leaving her job.

Monica will send request for help with Transperformance on the listserv.

Adjourned