

# NSE PTO Meeting



**Tuesday, January 12, 2021**

**I. Meeting was called to order by Nikki Tilson at 6:05 pm.**

**II. Introductions / Meeting Attendees**

PTO Officers: Nikki Tilson (President), Melissa Messer (Vice President), Melody Benavides (Treasurer), Ajit Vaidya (Secretary).

NSE Teachers / Admin: Vickie Boudouris (Principal), Courtney Morales (4<sup>th</sup> Grade), Lauren Bloemker (5<sup>th</sup> Grade, Student Council), Maryann Hewitt (Parent Coordinator),

PTO Members / Volunteers: Natalie Dougherty (Teacher Appreciation), Kristin Hallstrom (Communications), Mary Swick (Yearbook), Courtney Hvostal, Margaret Whitehurst.

**III. Secretary's Report (Ajit Vaidya):**

Minutes of the Dec. 8, 2020 PTO meeting were approved with minor corrections. The updated minutes will be uploaded to the NSE website.

**IV. President's Report (Nikki Tilson):** We have had a lot of new events within the distance learning environment. We are doing fewer events moving forward, so we may have some extra funds that we would like to allocate to teachers for classroom support. The following is a list of upcoming events:

- A. Student Council spirit days
- B. Jan. 22 is Pajama Day
- C. Feb. 12 is Backwards Day
- D. March 26 is Spring Colors Day
- E. April 23 is Crazy Outfit Day
- F. May 21 is Beach Day

**V. Treasurer's Report (Melody Benavides):**

As of January 1, 2021 the bank balance was \$19,173.93. The Budget to Actual report has been updated with activities through 12/30/2020.

- A. We are requesting approval to increase teacher reimbursement budget to \$1,875. PTO voted to allocate \$575 to add \$25 each to twenty three classrooms. This will increase the total from \$1,300 to \$1,875 for classroom enrichment.

- B. Jump Ropes for virtual learners- The school is in need of jump ropes for all the kids. Many kids don't know how to jump rope. This would be good for getting more kids doing physical activity during the virtual P.E. time. We would like all the kids to have a jump rope assigned to them, and to remain active during distance learning. Once kids return to in-person instruction, their teachers would store the jump ropes in their classrooms or elsewhere in school storage. PTO voted to allocate \$1,001.83 for this expense.

**VI. Principal's Report (Vickie Boudouris):**

We have welcomed new staff. Amanda Turkbergen is officially now the new School Nurse. We really appreciate the level of expertise and experience that she brings to Natoma Station Elementary.

We recently hired Savannah Southern to replace Mrs. Steele who retired before winter break. She will be teaching 3rd Grade. She previously taught in Stockton and most recently worked for PowerSchool in Folsom. She missed the daily interactions with students and decided to return to the classroom, where she finds great joy.

Jessica Hom is our new library clerk. On her behalf, Vickie is requesting PTO to sponsor \$100 to fund prizes for students who meet monthly reading challenges that will be promoted.

Frontline is a digital health screener that is now available to parents. It is a quick and easy tool that allows our health office professionals to respond effectively when families report symptoms.

Self-Control is the character trait focus for the month of January. Monthly challenge activities ask students to describe what strategies help them to control themselves during challenging situations. Students may submit their entries on our [NSEcheetahs@gmail.com](mailto:NSEcheetahs@gmail.com) website. One entry is highlighted each week and the student earns a book about self-control from our Self-Control Virtual Library. Virtual cookies and cocoa with the Principal for students who have exhibited self-control will happen at the end of the month.

We are including more student voice to the Monday Morning Message. Students will be able to share fun facts or riddles. Stay tuned for some student-led videos.

We are in the planning stages of partnering with our PTO to host a virtual talent show sometime in March. Stay tuned for more details.

We really appreciate the support of our PTO. Our strong partnership with you makes our school an amazing community.

**VII. Teachers Report (Ms. Bloemker, Ms. Morales)**

Ms. B. gives thanks to PTO for organizing the fun spirit nights and events for our students. Thank you for supporting our Student Council t-shirts. Students have been asking if we can order T-shirts with the design developed by students in the fall. We have two leadership teams. 1) Curriculum and Instruction, and 2) Culture and Climate. Ms. Morales is leading the Culture and Climate team at NSE. This group works on building a strong sense of community and belonging for students, staff, and families at Natoma Station Elementary.

**VIII. Garden Report (Nikki Tilson for Ms. Cameron):**

Nicole Ball has been helping to maintain the garden. The Garden is looking great.

**IX. Parent Coordinator Report (Maryann Hewitt):**

- A. Please send more pictures, drawings, and videos of what kids have been doing for distance learning to add to the website, and other events. We don't have that many pictures.
- B. Student Council will have their own page on Cheetah Bytes.
- C. We are missing the in-person contact with volunteers.

**X. Old/Current Business**

- A. No old business.
- B. We would like to do Spirit Nights in February, March, and April.

**XI. New Business**

- A. Valentine's Day- We are looking for ways to celebrate Valentine's Day and we would like your input.
- B. Donuts event- We have discussed doing a drive by event on a Monday to pick up a packet of donuts. However, if we are in purple tier, we may not be able to do this type of event, as this is considered a non-essential event. As long as we are in purple tier, we can't do certain kinds of in-person events.
- C. We are soliciting ideas for virtual events. We would like to do a virtual talent show. It would be very easy for parents to be involved. Kids would get 60 seconds for their talent, and they could submit the videos for the show. We could get a videographer.
- D. We would like to do monthly Spirit Nights to try and support local businesses.
- E. Spring fundraiser: We had considered doing Art To Remember, but we decided not to do go forward with this due to logistical challenges with the distance learning.
- F. 2020-21 Yearbook
  - 1. Download pics to TreeRing or email to [natomastationyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:natomastationyearbook@gmail.com)

**XII. Adjourn** – Meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30pm.