

NPTO Meeting Agenda

Monday, March 7th, 2011

I. Roll Call! (Dawn) - In attendance: Dawn Ellerd, Julie Sheahan, Franc Garcia, Hope Schwartz, Emily Schmall, Jane Lagerquist, Mary Corrigan, KD Athow, Tom Lockart, Lisa Reynolds, Kimberly Adelsman, Kate Tetmeyer, Jan Beebe

II. Minutes/Agenda additions (Dawn)

Additions:

- (1) There is a new Operations Manager, Kim Regan.
- (2) There is interest in doing a Nova Cookbook. Carol Logie offered to volunteer to help.
- (3) Reminder: The Golf Outing Fundraiser is coming up.
- (4) Liz Palmer wanted families to be aware of the Barnes & Noble Teacher Appreciation Contest.
- (5) Roller Skating Party was a well attended event. Thank you to the organizers!
- (6) There was positive feedback from everyone regarding the Great Gatherings events.

III. Parent Check-in (Dawn)

KD Athow had updates from Room Parents.

- (1) Kindergarten Families will help with the Parent Education Night, March 17th at the Lower Campus
- (2) 5th grade will help with the Staff Appreciation Day on April 22nd
- (3) 3rd grade will help with Special Person's Day - May 6th
- (4) 1st grade will help with the Spring Vocal Concert on May 23rd

Jan Beebe had updates from the Upper Campus Work Groups

- (1) Athletic Group has been very active. They have hosted a number of events
- (2) Student Group hosted a Dance.
- (3) Mary & Jim Jones purchased (12) table clothes to be used for events at the Upper Campus. They are stored in bids at the Upper Campus
- (4) Mary Corrigan asked for help with meals in the form of time volunteering or money to help offset catering costs.

IV. Quick Updates

A. BoD Liaison Brief (Kate)

- (1) The Board of Directors approved the 2011-2012 school calendar. They added back in two student contact days and switched to quarters. School starts after Labor day; ends June 10th. Winter break shortened by 2 days and Spring break is first week of April.
- (2) There will be a Forum held by BofD on Tuesday 3/8 at 6:30. This is the 2nd forum being held.
- (3) The development team is working on promoting the "Give a Heart" Campaign. Here is a link on the Nova website.
- (4) The BoD will be accepting nominations for (4) parent seats.
- (5) Facilities News - the CDC has given the Victoria Park

location a passing grade so far. There will be a full discussion of the Primary Site on March 28th.

B. Treasurer's Report (Franc)

- (1) Taxes/state reporting- The Federal Taxes are completed and filed. State filing is good to go.

V. Discussion/Action Items

A. Elections (Dawn)

- (1) PTO elections for a Co-Chair and possibility a Treasurer will be held at the June meeting.
- (2) The timeline for voting is as follows:
your nomination needs to be received by April 15, you will be nominated at the May meeting and final voting will be held at the June meeting
- (3) There was discussion about creating a co-treasurer or expanding the Co-Chairs responsibilities in the area of PTO finances.

B. Carnival (Kate)

- (1) Here was a lot of discussion about the carnival.
- (2) Kate Tetmeyer has a list of jobs that need to be filled.
- (3) There was discussion about the need for a map of the carnival. It was decided that there would be an alternate raining day map to be used if needed.
- (4) Jeff Ellerd has agreed to organize the hot dog grilling crew.
- (5) The group discussed having a Karaoke machine at the carnival. It was thought that the Upper Campus students might be able to help with the song selections and running of the machine.
- (6) There was also discussion about having an Athletic Event. Fun Run, races, games?
- (7) Although Nova can't have a Dunk Tank at the carnival (per our Insurance Co) the idea of a Teacher Egg Toss was met with overwhelming enthusiasm.
- (8) **There will be a Carnival Planning Meeting on April 7th at 6:30pm**

C. Looking Ahead (Julie/Dawn) – Not discussed. Discussion will be moved to the April meeting.

D. Ongoing meeting format (Julie/Dawn) – It was decided that the 6:30pm PTO meeting time works better for a lot of families. The decision was made to continue the 6:30 meetings for the remainder of this school year.

VI. Public Comment on today's discussion

- (1) KD reminded the group that additional Playground volunteers are needed at all Lower School recesses.

VII. Adjourn – 8pm

Attachments

I. NPTO Liaison Report

NPTO Update of BOD Feb. mtg.

Presented by Kate Tetmeyer, NPTO Liaison

Meeting started with a presentation by CSDC (Charter School Development Corporation) which is working with Nova to secure a site for our expanding program. They have recently finished a preliminary feasibility study of the Victoria Park site and believe that it is a “doable” plan. The BOD noted that Nova’s increased fund balance over the last two years and the city’s willingness to work with Nova have bolstered our ability to secure both financing and a site. The F & B committee will present a development plan at the next meeting, using the schools natural growth, to demonstrate how Nova’s financial base can grow to meet facility demands.

Treasurer report: current Fund Balance at approx. 25% and at current projections we will not need our line of credit before end of fiscal year (June 30th)

Admin report: Nova received 648 on time applications this year (566 last year) Lottery was held March 1st and the letters sent out.

Mr. Bloomfield and Mrs. Morton will be giving a presentation at the American Classical League Annual Conference to be held in Mpls in June.

A second UC Parent Open Forum will be held Tues. March 8th, 6:30. Concerns at previous forum touched on how Nova grads will be presented to potential colleges and if the work load prevents the “well rounded” student colleges look for. Concerns include homework load, differentiated curriculum, and the purpose and execution of high school seminars.

Curriculum: continues to fill out H S maps

Strategic planning: the BOD was presented with the data collected from an extensive research and survey project (highlights available in BOD packet). BOD will review this data and focus in on priorities for a 5 yr strategy plan.

Action Items: after much discussion, the calendar for next year was approved. It does include a slightly shorter Winter Break, bringing Nova’s break inline with other local public schools, a slightly longer spring break in April, not March. (Some of the restructuring has to do with the change from a trimester schedule to a quarter schedule)

After *even* longer discussion, the motion to enter into a contract with Parnassus, a developing charter school under our authorizer Friends of Education, to lend planning and curriculum development help was rejected. It was felt that securing a facility and fulfilling the K-12 mission should take current precedence and that a long term plan should be developed on the type and scope of help Nova would give other schools.

Approval to send Offer letters to teachers for next year passed (any teacher who is not current on their licensure and who does not have a plan in place to do so will not receive a letter)

Meeting then closed for approx. 45 min for Executive Directive Review of Mr. Bloomfield

Next board meeting is March 28th