



Newman PTC Meeting

September 16, 2016

MINUTES

Principal Reports:

Jessica Peterson

- Growth Mindset
 - dove right back into work with focus on mindset, failure, resiliency, perseverance
 - through NEF grant obtained 120 copies of Carol Dweck's Mindset book, available to staff and parents
 - also obtained copies of Gift of Failure and 5 picture books around failure and resiliency
- Dot Day
 - students enjoyed celebrating International Dot Day
 - a global celebration of creativity, courage and collaboration
 - the idea that creativity begins with a small dot on a piece of paper

Teacher Report:

Julie Minarski

- Julie is a 3rd grade teacher and this year's teacher rep
- Discussed "growth mindset" and its influence as learners, understanding what we can/can't do and how to persevere
- Presented thoughts on the PBS/NOVA special "School of the Future"
 - how can the science and neuroscience behind learning help us rethink the future of education for all children
 - can be viewed for free online - also suggested a screening to watch as a community, beneficial for teachers and parents

President Reports:

Naomi, Shanna and Melissa

- Position Update
 - have 2 box tops people
 - need permits person
 - need co-person for newsletter
 - 5th grade committee - sending out invitation to parents
 - need grade level coordinators - all set for 3rd grade - need 1st, 2nd and 4th
- Minuteman Vote
 - Vote YES on Tuesday 9/20
- Shanna is looking for feedback on proposed multicultural night as discussed last year

Guest:**Caren Nemptow Director of CAP**

- 18 years with the CAP program
- Sponsored by Needham Community Council, also funded by PTC
- Teaches simple strategy to keep kids safe, covering topics such as bullying, strangers, assaults
- Presented through guided discussions as well as role-play exercises
- Workshops begin at the end of October for 3rd and 5th grades, and 1st grade in the spring
- Parent info night in October
- Program provides volunteer training, next training session starts 10/15, looking for volunteers

School Committee Rep:**Kim Marie Nicols**

- Meetings are 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at Broadmeadow
 - meeting 9/20
 - starts with public comment regarding items not on agenda
 - can be viewed on cable and online
- Referendum regarding the Minuteman Vocational School on Tuesday 9/20
 - voting at Senior Center from 12:00-8:00
- Vote on Tuesday 11/8
 - Question #5 - Vote YES for override to build new Hillside school
- Needham Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)
 - education presentation scheduled for Monday 9/26 at Broadmeadow
 - introduction and overview of services offered to students
- 5th Annual Needham Diversity Summit Saturday 11/19 at Pollard
 - celebrate diversity in the community
 - event is free, including lunch

Discussions:

- Sign
 - voted to have new glass-enclosed sign in front near historical society, that can be seen from Central Ave.
 - need town approval
- Budget
 - reviewed by committee heads over the summer
 - not much changed from previous years

Board and Committee Reports:**Family Activities - Melissa Lassonde**

- Monster Ball Friday 10/21
 - reaching out via email for committee members
 - candy bar bingo, costume parade, music
 - pizza available to order in advance, and slices also available night of
 - this year only ticketing students

Fundraising - Shanna Deng

- Met 9/15
- Forming SpringFest committee, proposing 6/3 event date
 - this will be the big fundraiser for year, and looking for new ideas
- Adult Social - 4/1 or 4/8
 - need a committee chair
 - discussing themes
- Annual Fund
 - need a committee chair
 - focus on participation, as reflected on board in front of school

Book Fair – Andrea Carter

- week after Thanksgiving, during media team and a family night
- opportunity for new books for families and also a fundraiser for books in the classroom and media center
- looking for volunteers who can be available during class times
- also need help to assist teachers ordering books after the fair
- run by Jen Murray and Heather Colwell with Best Book Fairs, Woburn
- will send out a dedicated email prior to Book Fair

UDA - Andrea Carter

- program teaches about different learners and abilities
- social and emotional curriculum to teach students that everyone is different and everyone learns differently
- workshops start in K, hands-on programming, some grades have speakers
- goal is to teach about differences and similarities

Website - Karen O'Leary

- per Cooper, committee heads should send updates to him to reflect current names and positions on the site

Next meeting: Friday, October 21st at 9:00 AM