



**NORTH DAVIS ELEMENTARY**  
PTA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2017 AT 7PM  
NORTH DAVIS ELEMENTARY MPR

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

In attendance: Sarah Roseen, Sophie Javers, Sarah Eich, Bobbi Avery, Brenna Hughes, Camille Stephenson, Andrea Luttringer, Vicki Quinn, Karen Fingerman, Kurt Yeaman, Jennifer Aguilar, Dave Guerrero, Rachel Gunn, Ling Wang, Chaunhong Zhang, Erin Sharp, Katherine Desjorlais, Jessica Russell, Sam King, Kristen Gong, Alana Rothman, Noel Brueing, Michelle Buzbee, Jen Roach, Xiaosan Lun, Kerry MacKay, Lilie Wang, Esther Wright, Xingin Lyu, Kristen Muir, Michelle Livingston, Chana Roe, Amanda Gibson, Barbara Linke.

Sophie welcomed parents and teachers. She shared a presentation about the purpose of the PTA and included statements in several different languages. Sophie stated the PTA's goal to translate as many materials as possible into different languages.

- **Approve Agenda**

Sophie moved to approve the agenda. Karen Fingerman seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

- **Approve May 2017 Meeting Minutes**

The vote to approve the May minutes was moved to the October general meeting.

- **Fitness Proposal**

Kristen Muir shared her background creating Kids in Motion and working at NDE. Kristen misses working at NDE and will return this year. She presented her proposal and went through each line item to explain the activities that the money supports. Kristen works with teachers, staff, and parents to share and teach her fitness curriculum. She also uses PTA funds to purchase new fitness equipment for the school.

This year, Kristen would like to bring back the Jump Rope Assembly and will be here on Wednesdays to teach students jump rope skills and tricks. There will also be two assemblies throughout the year. Kristen will also be working with the 5th grades to support California State Fitness testing, since teachers get no training or support for this task.

Also new this year, the 6th graders will be trained to mentor the 1st grade students during the first grade fitness time. Kristen's role is to supervise these 6th graders and support this program.

## ● Music Proposal

Sophie presented the music proposal from Mindy Manville and the changes from last year. The music line item is more expensive this year because she will be adding 1st grade and bringing in a choreographer for performances.

## ● Treasurer's Report/Approve the Budget

Camille Stephenson walked the group through the budget, sharing the fundraisers for the year and the programs supported by the PTA. Kristen Muir added that the fitness curriculum will need to change from \$5,600 to the correct amount of \$6,100. Bobbi Avery gave information about the school orchard that it will be going in sometime in March.

Rachel Gunn asked for a description of the Special Education cooking class. Sophie shared that we will not be doing the Pancake Breakfast this year, so that \$600 line item was split between the new Community Cart, and this cooking class. Sandra Espinosa, a paraeducator at NDE, conducts a cooking class for the special education students on Fridays. She has previously paid for it from her own pocket, but now will have money to support this.

The SRA reading program and the Vocabulary Books will no longer be used at the school because of our new ELA curriculum. Those costs were eliminated from the budget opening up some more funds.

A parent asked about the Walker Creek Scholarships. Sophie explained the 6th grade field trip and its expense. She also added that the current 5th graders will be conducting a bake "sale" at the Dolphin Dash to raise money towards their trip.

A parent asked about the Scrip program. Sophie shared that it is not currently in the budget and that she will wait until someone takes this on before it is added in. It is also noted that there is a current SCRIP account with a \$9,000 balance, which is kept separate from the general PTA budget. Kurt Yeaman explained the Scrip program, which involves purchasing gift cards for various stores. Then, a portion of this purchase is given back to NDE PTA.

Rachel Gunn asked about the lack of free family events at the school. Sophie shared that there will still be several events throughout the year that are free for

families. Grade levels are encouraged to host parties, sponsored by PTA, with the goal of bringing families together. There is also a discussion of a family movie night. Sarah Rosen added that the Dolphin Dash is also a free event. If they do the race, there is an entrance fee, but there are several other free community components to the event. There will be a community art project, face painting, bounce houses, and the bake "sale" where participation is also free. Karen Fingerman explained the reasoning behind the choice to move away from the Pancake Breakfast this year, including the timing switch to the Fall, the amount of volunteers, and the success of the bake "sale" last year.

Sophie highlighted that the PTA is making a purposeful shift to move away from just fundraisers and include more community events. Bobbi Avery called for more volunteers to support these events. Sophie agreed that there is money for events, but that we need people to organize and take charge.

Sophie Javers moved to approve the budget. Andrea Luttringer seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. Budget passed.

## ● Teacher Update

Karen Fingerman introduced herself as a 5th grader teacher and read many updates from different grade levels.

Kindergarten wanted to thank the PTA for their support and the family popsicle party. They are looking forward to their pumpkin patch field trip on the bus that PTA supports.

Jen Aguilar shared the 1st grade update, focusing on Friday fitness. They will start music with Mindy also this week. Jen also noted that many of the 1st graders are enjoying the new English Language Arts curriculum.

Kurt Yeaman made the 2nd grade announcements. He noted that the 2nd grade family picnic night will be held on October 4th. Running Club begins this week. It is open to K-3rd graders. Kurt Yeaman asked for parents to come volunteer at Running Club. The 2nd graders will be going to the Muni Golf Course as their first field trip this year. Kurt also explained the Self-Manager program and the upcoming grade level assemblies. He suggested that NDE purchase a popcorn machine to use at various events.

3rd grade is off to a great start with fitness and the "Mile Club." They will also begin Self Manager assemblies next week.

4th grade will be working with June Wood this year to produce some works of art. The PTA supports this with funds for each grade level. They will be going on their field trip to Sutter's Fort soon. The 4th grade also appreciates that the PTA supports the art boxes that all teachers have access to use.

5th grade has begun to use their money from PTA to support students who have attention difficulties. They purchased several different quiet fidgets and other flexible seating options. The 5th grade will be doing their family gathering in October. Their field trips this year will include a tour of a historical ship, a trip to the Mondavi Center, an Ancient Artifacts Presentation, and a Voyage to Mars expedition at the Discovery

Science Center. 5th grade also uses their grade level grants from PTA to support theater improvisation, taught by Rebecca Yazdani. They use this practice to perform at the annual 5th grade Poetry Cafe. 5th grade students also began fitness rotations with Kristen Muir this Monday.

6th grade is rotating classes this year by subject. Teachers say that students are rising to the occasion and that the teachers themselves are able to delve deeper into their curriculum. They will host a Walker Creek info night, sponsored by the PTA, in November.

The school counselors wanted to share that they will be opening a new counseling center in a classroom on campus. This will support all students on campus. Counselors are currently going class to class doing presentations on conflict resolution.

Dave Guerrero talked about the English Language program at NDE. He introduced Rachel Gunn, who also works with students who are learning English as a second language. They are working to assess 52 students, who are new to NDE this year, using the CELDT test. There are also 20 students that they are looking to reclassify this year. Dave is also conducting a field test for the state of California with these students. Their goal is to support students in their English Language development, both at school and at home. Dave thanked the PTA for their support of community engagement at North Davis.

## ● Principal's Update

Sarah Roseen shared some new construction developments over the summer, including a new blacktop, new parking lot, and a new HVAC system. Sarah is working with the district to advocate for facility updates to make this a 21st century learning environment.

Sarah shared our new staff members. Bobbi Avery is our school nurse, Greg Devine is the new daytime custodian, Serina Echeverria is the new nighttime custodian, Tracy Williams is our new Resource teacher, Carey Galles is a new speech therapist, Alicia Perry is our new school counselor, and Ellie Payne as a new 1st grade teacher. NDE has also added Lori Stafford and Yulija Pankova as new reading paraeducators.

Principal Roseen explained that the new Benchmark Advance program for ELA is more rigorous. She highlighted the importance of high expectations for students and having a "Growth Mindset." Eria Burnison, the NDE math specialist, is also going into classrooms to help teach students to have a "math mindset."

There is a district expectation that all schools have a Climate Committee. Sarah asked for any parents that are interested in being a part of this committee, which will focus on creating a safe school environment. There will also be a parent night for them to come and learn what we are sharing with children at school. Sarah Roseen will be hosting "Coffee with the Principal" a few times this year, which is an opportunity to stop in and discuss how things are going.

## ● Upcoming Events and Activities

The Dolphin Dash is Sunday, September 24th. There are 375 participants and events include face painting, bounce houses, a bake "sale", and a community art project. Brenna asked for more parent volunteers for the 5K, since they had to change the course this year due to greenbelt closures. There will be a volunteer table at the event and there is also a Sign-Up-Genius online to sign up for a specific job.

October 17th - Next PTA meeting in the NDE MPR.

October 27th- Fall Auction

Michelle Livingston shared that they are still looking for new volunteers at the event. It is a Friday night, which is different this year, but could be better for attendance. CDC will have childcare available at the auction. There is food, provided by Street Cravings, and drinks at this event.

Family Dinner Night- Woodstocks

Andrea Luttringer explained that the first one was a great success. They were not expecting quite so many people to attend, which caused unexpected wait times for food. The PTA raised over \$400 at the event, which was 25% of the total purchases. Andrea asked people for suggestions of possible venues for future family dinner nights.

NDE Newsletter-

The NDE Newsletter is a bit slow to get started this year, but will be coming out soon. Sophie shared that there are many available grants and a 5th grade parent, Jen Roach, will be researching possible opportunities. Sophie also asked that if anyone has a connection to UCD or other possible programs, to please be in contact with her.

Comments-

One parent suggested that we ask a local theater for popcorn donations as opposed to purchasing a machine. This could avoid cleaning and the cost.

Another parent suggested the idea of having a CPR/First Aid class for kids sponsored by the PTA.

Andrea asked if there was a way to let parents know what books are needed to support the new ELA program for teachers to use as possible read alouds. She thinks that by getting this information into the community, we may receive some donations.

Another parent suggested making an event, such as the International Potluck, where families can get together and celebrate cultures. Dave Guererro shared the background of this event and that it is sadly often limited to our MPR space due to weather. Dave and Sophie love this idea and would like to see something bigger happen at NDE.

Dave also called attention to the ELAC meetings for parents of English Language Learners who may want to be a part of the committee. The dates of the meetings are still being scheduled.

Sophie shared her email address and asked parents to reach out with questions and ideas.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.