

NES PTAC General Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

4/17/18 7:00 pm

Executive Board Members in attendance: Nancy Pitz, Riki Frea, Rita Ayer, Nikki Lee, Jess Sekley, Eve Bonn, and Angela Hudgins

Parents in attendance: 1 member

Presenters: Dale Peterson & Devaki Douillard representing the Mwebaza Foundation

At 7:00 pm, Riki Frea led the call to order, the March meeting minutes were approved, and an overview of the agenda was presented.

President's Update

1. The proposed 2018/19 PTAC budget was presented. The cost of the paras is an estimate since the staffing plan has not been finalized. All numbers are expected to be finalized before the final vote during the May meeting.
2. The following nominees for 2018/19 PTAC board were voted in:
 - Angela Hudgins-President
 - Brenda Teig-Vice President
 - Nikki Lee-Vice President, Fundraising
 - Jessica Sekley-Treasurer
 - Anne Jentz-Financial Secretary
 - Darci Hermann-Recording Secretary
 - The communication secretary position is still open.
3. Climbing wall update
 - Catherine Balog, the p.e. teacher, is still working with the district to determine who is responsible for the cost of the wall installation. The district is evaluating including the installation cost with the cost of the other projects that are scheduled at NES this summer.
 - \$10,000 of PTAC funds were unanimously approved for the cost of purchasing and shipping the wall. The order will not be placed until we know who will pay for installation.
 - The PTAC board agreed to maintain a minimum of \$10,000 in the reserve fund to allow for the worse case scenario of having to pay benefits for all PTAC funded paras. This eliminates the need to fundraise the roughly extra \$10,000 and allows us to only budget the actual anticipated para cost in the 2018/19 budget. Riki advised

that this does not require a change to the bylaws since the current bylaws state that the board must leave a minimum balance of \$5,000 at the end of each fiscal year.

- The next general meeting will be on 5/15 at 9:15 am Karen Ragland, Area 2 Representative will be the guest speaker.

Principal's Update

1. Learning Style Letters are due by the end of the day on 4/20.
2. The District Art Show will be held on 4/17 to 4/21 at the County Fairgrounds.
3. The staffing plan has not been finalized. Nancy expects to have the final plan from the district by 4/20.
4. Nancy announced that a second preschool classroom will be added to accommodate students from the Neighborhood Learning Center which is closing. The new preschool classroom will be a combination 3 & 4 year old class and will be mornings Monday to Thursday. The class is almost full.
5. The district will provide 10 large ipads for each classroom in addition to the 4 small ones each classroom already has.

Communications Update

1. 75 people responded to the survey.
2. Most respondents said they contributed to the Cougar Campaign so the survey did not provide any insight to the reason for low participation.
3. The replies for a convenient meeting time were mixed and did not provide any direction as to when to schedule meetings to increase attendance.
4. Survey participants indicated that they are happy with how the PTAC spends funds and the activities the PTAC funds.
5. The survey was primarily an opportunity for families to express their opinion about PTAC activities. It did not provide any clear direction from the NES community.

Mwebaza Foundation Presentation

1. The Mwebaza Foundation has had a 10 year partnership with Niwot Elementary School. The goal of the foundation is to improve education in Uganda while enriching cultural understanding of students locally in Colorado.
2. Currently, 4 Ugandan schools benefit from the Mwebaza partnerships and locally, NES, Eagle Crest Elementary, and 2 Adams County schools are partner schools.
3. Mwebaza Day was celebrated at NES on 4/3. The annual Mwebaza jog-a-thon fundraiser is scheduled for 5/2. This year, registration and pledges will be completed online.
4. Funds collected from previous Mwebaza fundraisers were used to build a concrete floor in Mwebaza School to protect students from illness from bug bites. Other

projects have included adding a lunch program, purchasing chicken that are used for feeding students and income, and purchasing a school bus that doubles as a cab during off hours to generate extra income for the school.

5. The current project is focused on adding 2 classrooms built from shipping containers to relieve overcrowding at Mwebaza School. Sunset Middle School and the Career Development Center students contributed to the design of the classrooms. Niwot High School students will help with the building of the containers. The foundation needs help raising \$13,000 to ship the containers and donations of school and medical supplies that will be shipped in the containers.
6. For more information on the Mwebaza Foundation, please visit their website @ <http://www.mwebaza.org/>.

Minutes compiled by Rita Ayer, VP