

NES PTAC General Meeting Minutes

“Envision Math Program adoption, Q&A with Nancy, Board Member Nominees”

March 21, 2018 9:15 am

Executive Board Member Attendees: Nancy Pitz, Riki Frea, Rita Ayer,

Eve Bonn, Jessica Sekley, Nikki Lee, Angela Hudgins

15 Parent Attendees

At 9:18 Riki Frea, President, announced a call to order. Board Member introductions.

Approve Minutes- Eve motion, Jess seconded. Nominees presented- Nominations are set- nothing new added at this time.

President’s Update- Riki Frea

Riki clarified the description of open positions- Financial Secretary and Communications Secretary.

Upcoming events- talent show, Dining 4 Dollar\$, Usborne Book Fair.

Financial Update- Sock Hop income: net profit ~\$3,400 Silent Auction: net profit- ~\$8,650

End of year finances: anticipated end of year cash: \$17,500 (not including \$5,000 required reserve). This money is available due to having a larger than anticipated cash balance available at the start of the 2017-18 Fiscal year. Riki presented info on a climbing wall request from Catherine Balog and proposed allocating some of the extra funds to purchase and install the climbing wall. Nancy is gathering information regarding cost from district for installing (most likely materials only, no labor charge). This will be open for discussion and we will present a vote for approval in April meeting. Nancy explained proposed location which would be on a corner of the gym to provide extra climbing challenges as recommended. Ideally, installation would happen over the summer depending on approval and building construction timeline. Questions on potential other options for spending the money were asked. There are no other staff requests for additional money at this time. Riki explained how we plan for budgeting for para hours based on worst-case-scenario contract sent from the district. We can possibly use some of the overage to create a “para reserve” for future if that seems to be the best option. Nancy discussed the past large expenditures on technology which is now relieved by the district, allowing for other uses of PTAC funds. She also described the upcoming conversion of the computer lab to a more STEM lab, funded by school and district funds rather than PTAC. Quick presentation of overall budget- available on website. Looking for community input in order to create the 2018-19 PTAC budget. Next meeting we will vote on new board members, climbing wall, and presentation of proposed budget. Budget approval will be voted on in May meeting. Encouragement to add new volunteers- visit website for opportunities.

Greg George- K-12 Mathematics Coordinator SVVSD

Envision Math Curriculum

Envision 2.0 approved by district last Wednesday. Explanation of why the program is changing: 7-year cycle for refreshing all content areas (staggered), Colorado Academic Standards, state assessments, tech resources in St. Vrain, change can be good. Explanation of what is the same and what is different compared to current math program. Advantages of new program include technology components, increased rigor and differentiation. Grades 3-5 will now have fully funded classroom sets of consumable workbooks. Video example for instructional support. Grades 3-5 will have access to lesson videos and online resources and practice. These online resources will replace IXL in the future. The format is also the same as Digits, which is used at the middle school level. Explanation regarding the 7-year cycle of change-

this involves a 29-person committee to review and adopt new curriculum. Change can involve just updating what is current or looking for an entirely new curriculum. Before changing curriculum, a full year pilot is done across the district followed by teacher, student, and parent feedback before adoption of the curriculum. Next 2 late-start days will be centered around implementation of the new curriculum and then in summer teachers will attend a 2-day training for the new curriculum.

Principals Update- Nancy Pitz

Building Construction and Security update. Explanation of different drills that are done throughout the year- lockdown, lockout, lockdown, evacuation, tornado, etc. All Staff is well-trained through the district, Boulder County Police are involved in training and checking preparation. Question regarding training for volunteers- something to look into.

District-wide, buildings with less secure entries are being updated this summer. Buildings will have a double entry that is secured. Nancy presented the construction plans and finishes. This remodel will begin the day after school ends in May. Update in primary classrooms to remove sink peninsulas and add tile flooring to open rooms. Office will be based in preschool room during construction. Niwot High School is also under construction this summer so that office staff will be staffed in NES during the summer as well. Sound system update to library. Cameras are being added inside and out of the building to fully monitor all areas (not including restrooms and inside classrooms).

Explanation of upgrades to computer lab and integration of makerspace to create a new Discovery Lab for next year funded by building and district funds. 32 existing computers will be traded in to the district for 2 carts of chromebooks (75). Discovery Lab will include a green screen, a 3-D printer, existing makerspace options. Tech Lab time will now become Discovery Lab time allowing for more time for children to explore makerspace options. Mr. M-K will continue to teach this.

Staffing plan update: explanation of how staffing numbers are determined by district based on several factors. So far, numbers look like we will still have one grade level with only 2 teachers- grade level has not been determined yet. Projected number for next year is 400 (not including preschool) and kindergarten only counts as half (because tuition pays for half) for adjusted number. Question regarding creation of a combo class such as 3&4? This could be a possibility but they would need to be back to back. Open to creative options for arranging classes if needed. Only classes that are able to be capped are Kindergarten. Other grades do not have caps. Staffing plan should be confirmed by end of April (though it is still subject to change at any point). As a focus (differentiation) school, we get one extra FTE which is why we are able to have a full time GT teacher. FTE applies only to classroom teachers, not including special ed, specials, dean, etc. FTE can also be converted into classified which can be used to hire paras. Questions regarding eventual rezoning to more evenly re-distribute among schools- NES is half open-enrolled. Would it be possible to use PTAC funds to fund a teacher? There might be district regulations that do not allow this (regarding licensed staff). NES was the first school in St. Vrain to fund paras by the parent group and worked with the district to put new policies in place. No other school is funding as many paras as NES currently.

Meeting adjourned at 11:53