

**Niwot Elementary School's
PTAC General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 21, 2017**

OPENING

The meeting was called to order by President Donna Blondeau at 7:04 pm with seven members present, along with Principal, Nancy Pitz.

ATTENDEES: Rita Ayer, Donna Blondeau, Eve Bonn, Cathy Caparelli, Riki Frea, Patricia Lady, Nancy Pitz, Debra Rothstein, Julie Stenz

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The PTAC Board was introduced. New parent Deborah Rothstein welcomed. She is the mother of third-grader Brynn in Mrs. Breyer's class.

An overview of the agenda was provided.

PRINCIPAL UPDATE: NANCY PITZ

Michelle Coleman (5th grade) is resigning as of April 5th. Her husband accepted a job in Rhode Island. Mrs. Coleman will be back for a few shadow dates after spring break. The job posting for her position will post tomorrow. Her replacement will be considered a long-term sub. Interviews will most likely take place over the next two weeks. An email will go out to notify the NES community. Ricki Frea asked if interviews will be for a permanent replacement or for a sub. Nancy explained When hiring a *late start* teacher the position is considered non-renewal, but the teacher can be rehired permanently in the formal hiring process for next year.

50TH ANNIVERSARY UPDATE

Niwot Country Living Magazine – Spring Issue – comes out in four weeks. Niwot Elementary (NES) will be in back-to-back issues. The first article will advertise the anniversary event. For the second article, the writer will attend the anniversary party and report on it. A photographer will visit NES in May.

Event Updates:

- Alumni will be volunteering that day
- Students have been writing papers about what they thought NES was like 50 years ago. These papers will be posted outside of classrooms
- Ricki Frea will work with Mrs. Sherwood to highlight the most popular elementary-aged books over the past 50 years
- Ricki will lead creating a time capsule for a 75 year anniversary
- Anniversary committee meets again tomorrow
- Will most likely have a picnic for the 50th celebration

PARCC AND CMAP TESTING

Testing is one week after spring break. Spring break is earlier this year, which is good timing for testing.

ENCORE AWARD

Please nominate teachers for the Encore Award. Teachers can nominate other teachers, which is different than before. Groups can be formed to nominate teachers.

MAKER SPACE UPDATE

Mrs. Sherwood prioritized things she wanted. John Freeman, 4th grade parent, donated 10 iPads. Some will be used for Maker Space, some for the STEM Lab. All came with cases and keyboards, and are the latest versions. Ricki asked Nancy

to share what the Maker Space will be used for and by whom. Nancy explained the idea behind Maker Space is providing students prototypes, puzzles, questions, and materials to solve problems using technology, legos, and discovery materials. Maker Space will be utilized during library time. Teachers can bring students to Maker Space during other times also. There will be many things available from Qtips to iPads. Basically, anything that might be used to create may be there. Kindergarten through 5th grade is the audience. Mrs. Pitz is proud of Mrs. Sherwood for embracing Maker Space. It enhances the Library.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

This summer construction work for all outside projects--playground reconfiguring, parking, Kiss & Catch will be done. Anything planned for outside will be done May through July. Inside work will be done next year, with the exception of entrance security that will be completed this year. Money to do these construction projects comes from the recently approved bond measure. As a result of this construction, there will be no summer camps for the next two years at NES. An email with links to where summer camps will be held was sent to NES families.

PRESIDENT UPDATE: DONNA BLONDEAU

Motion to approve January meeting minutes made, seconded, approved.

Donna called for a vote to pass bylaw amendments—those present voted and unanimously passed.

Donna restated nominations for new board members Cathy Caparelli (Treasurer) and Julie Stenz (Recording Secretary) were voted on and confirmed unanimously.

Nomination of Eve Bonn for Financial Secretary made, seconded, and unanimously passed.

BYLAW AMENDMENTS

General idea is that the bylaws are being updated to allow for two different people to do the job of Treasurer and Financial Secretary. Cathy is doing an amazing job of capturing fees and budgeting set up. Financial Secretary, Eve Bonn, deals with cash, checks, teacher requests, and hands-on tasks. Treasurer is a large job and this is a great solution. Changes to bylaws allow for one Treasurer and adds flexibility for two people to do the job. The Nominating Committee section was removed from the bylaws. The intention of this committee was to recruit for Donna's legacy and empire (just kidding).

Today's distributed PTAC newsletter calls for nominations for next year's board members. Open Positions: President, VP Fundraising, Treasurer, Communications Secretary. For next year, Rita, Hollan, and Patricia are staying on for the silent auction.

FINANCIAL REPORT (see PowerPoint presentation)

Numbers now reflect net income, as opposed to previous numbers reporting gross income. Thanks to Cathy Caparelli for separating fees--sales tax, paypal, square, etc. Some expenses over budget in areas, some fundraisers exceeded expectations.

- Donna and Cathy will review invoice for Para-professionals, specifically the fees for insurance.

All committee chair positions have been filled for next year. (See PowerPoint presentation)

A few committee spots opening up as 5th grade parents move on. Requests to come.

Budgeting for next year will start at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by Julie Stenz, Recording Secretary