

**Northgate Parent Faculty Club  
Minutes  
Thursday August 26, 2010**

**7:07 PM** – Meeting called to order by Monica Fitzgerald.

**Present:** Monica Fitzgerald, John McMorris, Kathy Frattini, Jenny Crosthwaite, Ann Sussman, Cathy Escobar, Linda Locke, Maria Kopf, Jill Sandberg, Michael Weinberger, Molly Anderson, Kristin Penick, Pam Bond, Margot Chafetz, Audrey Slaughter, Thea Horii.

**Guests:** Lucy Adamovica, Lisa Lamm, Kim East, Lisa Whittington, Nali Hewage, Joseph Neems, Katherine Neems, Ruth Carver, Tetra Boyle, Julie Allen, Hodayu Karim, Michael Tibayan, Joyce Tibayan, Alsaneh Zanjani, Ahassen Ahngha, Dietrick Panpus, Rabit Rexhepi, Hilda Lee, Ted Pierce, Liz Marigold, Sandy Cremin and Kara Navolio

**Approval of Minutes:** Monica thanked the PFC Executive Board for all their work over the summer. She made a motion to approve the minutes for the May 2010 meeting. **The motion passed.**

**Student Leadership Report – Ms. Wanket**

- Ms. Wanket attended the meeting along with several of the Leadership students. They have plans to update the website next week with information about what is happening at school this year. Homecoming is the week of October 25<sup>th</sup>. Friday Night Lights football game is September 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Senior Picnic is September 15<sup>th</sup>. Junior Prom is March 26<sup>th</sup>-location TBD and Senior Ball is May 7—location in San Francisco. There is a need for parent volunteers to assist with the planning of events for all classes. If you are interested, please contact Monica Fitzgerald to volunteer.

**Staff Reports:**

- Mrs. Jenkins spoke on behalf of the English Department. They are working on new units for non fiction reading and expository writing to improve the learning experience. Focus is being placed on consistency across the same grade level, providing the same rigor and quality across the grade level. The department welcomes 2 new teachers who are both experienced teachers.
- Ms. Young represented the Science Department and thanked the parents for donations made to the Science department which has permitted the department to have better equipment and more college level courses.
- Mr. Tubio attended for the World Languages department. This year, we are offering Mandarin (1 section) as well as Spanish, German, and French. In response to a parent question on German, Mr. Tubio indicated that German will be continuing and he hopes to grow the program.
- Mr. McMorris also spoke about 15 teachers who worked over the summer to improve programs for the students. The Social Studies Department is focusing on writing, particularly at the sophomore level. The Mathematics department has focused on pacing guides to ensure consistency within levels.

### **Vice-Principal's Report---Lynda Hayes**

- Ms. Hayes, who was promoted to Vice Principal after 6 years at Northgate, introduced Linda Clark, who will be in the College and Career Counseling Center. Ms. Clark spoke briefly on how very much she was looking forward to meeting and working with the Northgate students.
- A collaborative model is underway in Special Education. Software and computers have been added to a large classroom which allows for the teachers to work together.
- On the Master Schedule, the goal is to be complete with all changes by Friday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. 98% of the students are currently scheduled; working through some problems still.

### **Principal's Report---John McMorris**

- Mr. McMorris presented a power point presentation that he had shared with the teachers and staff the previous week. The presentation will be available on the PFC website after the meeting. Mc McMorris is focusing on Open Communication between staff and the community.
- Focus on Learning (FOL) efforts will continue throughout this school year. "Task predicts performance" is a critical piece followed by the question "What task is the student doing?" in order to understand whether learning is occurring. All three components must be in place and together on the same page, the student, teacher and curriculum.
- Sustained Silent Reading will continue this year with a focus on the reading and a discussion time following the reading to emphasize what occurred. Study Sessions will also continue with an emphasis on making the sessions more meaningful.

### **Education Fund Report – Cathy Escobar**

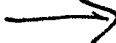
- Cathy reported the Education Fund is at approximately \$133,000 right now. This is significantly below budget. Only 479 families have contributed. Reminder emails will be sent in a few weeks. Those who have contributed need to be advocate to encourage others to contribute.

### **Treasurer's Report – Kathy Frattini**

- Kathy reported that gift cards had a large outflow at the beginning of the year to stock up. She also reminded people that the Ed Fund is 75% of the income for PFC and that we will not be able to offer as many sections as in the past if the budget goal is not met. We have approximately \$73,000 in carryover funds, but we are short \$ 45,000 in income to date.

### **President's Report---Monica Fitzgerald**

- Monica congratulated Mr. McMorris on building a sense of community at Northgate and that we have many things to celebrate. She thanked Audrey Slaughter and Thea Horii and all the volunteers who worked at Walk Through for a smooth running operation. Nina Barley was thanked for all her efforts with the PFC website as well as the Communications Team, who do an awesome job of getting information out there for all of us. She reminded everyone to sign up for e-news and Escrip. She also mentioned the Friday Night lights, the Football Meat and Seafood Sale (August 28 & 29), and a reminder that Every 15 Minutes will be happening in the Spring— please contribute to Parent Action Team if you have not already.
- The Strategic Planning Committee will be scheduling a Parent Night to brainstorm ideas on the Strategic Plan and obtain input from the parents.
- This year is our WASC accreditation year. There is a survey on line for parents to take—please g on line and take the brief survey.
- There was going to be a vote on the Global Outlook Career Path, but due to the low income numbers on Ed Fund, it was tabled until a future date.

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- ~~There was a motion made to vote on \$31,500 to fund 19-hour assistant in the College and Career Center (\$17,000), new software for CCC (\$6,500 start up and annual fee), and a special projects coordinator for CCC (maximum of \$8,000). The motion passed.~~

#### **Committee Reports:**

- **Northgate Pride—Kassie Wenzel:** The lights will go in this Fall. Fundraising efforts are underway for the bleachers. A lawsuit has been filed by neighbors against the lights, but no injunction. A question was asked about the pool—Kassie indicated they would like to partner with the City, but Pride needs volunteers interested in spearheading the effort.
- **Music Boosters—Ruth Carver:** The Marching Band March-a-thon will be Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. The Band will also be in the Walnut Creek Twilight Parade on September 18<sup>th</sup> and will perform at Homecoming. Parents interested specifically in Vocal Music are exploring a booster organization as well.
- **Athletic Boosters & UMDAF**—the first meeting for Athletic Boosters will be Thursday, September 2 at 7 PM in the NG Library. They meet in the Library the first Thursday of every month.

**Next PFC Meeting will be Thursday, September 16th at 9:00 AM in the Northgate High School library.**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Sussman, Secretary  
Northgate Parent Faculty Club**