

**Northgate Parent Faculty Club  
Minutes  
Thursday March 18, 2010**

**9:03 AM** – Meeting called to order by Jenny Crosthwaite.

**Present:** Kathy Frattini, Jenny Crosthwaite, Ann Sussman, Karen Cramer, Linda Locke, Patricia Proctor, Margot Chafetz, Linda Middleton, Kent Caldwell, Spalding Ashley, John McMorris, Lynda Hayes, Pat Brands.

**Guests:** Ruth Carver, Karen Krueger and Betsy Henderson

**Approval of Minutes:** Cindy Lentz made a motion to approve the minutes of February 2010. The motion passed.

**Student Leadership Report – Kai**

- Kai reported that the Junior Prom is this coming Saturday at the Chabot Observatory.
- There will be approximately 20 German exchange students visiting Northgate beginning on March 28<sup>th</sup>. Northgate students will be going to Germany in June.
- The Northgate recycling program has purchased 8 new boxes to collect recycling at the school. An additional 10 boxes will be obtained for the outside areas.
- ASB is looking at ways to promote school spirit and provide a welcoming atmosphere at Northgate. They are looking at some additional artwork or murals for campus. The multicultural assembly is tonight. Teen “Healthy Eating Week” is next week. This will include an assembly on Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. Leadership is also helping to publicize Career Day.

**Career Day – Patty Proctor**

- Approximately 55 speakers are confirmed for the first ever Career Day for Northgate (scheduled for Tuesday, April 20). Dr. Lawrence, the new Superintendent will speak in the Welcoming Remarks as well as Mr. McMorris.
- We are meeting with our Leadership committee for Marketing and Publicity in order to get the students interested and excited about Career Day. Mr. Johnson, as Chair of the P.E. department has graciously allowed use of the blacktop area for parking and the Gym for the event. A teacher flyer is going out today. The Teacher Appreciation team is also serving lunch for the teachers that day as well.
- Parent volunteers are also needed. If interested in helping please contact Patty Proctor or Ann Sussman.

**Spring for Education – Jenny Crosthwaite**

- Many thanks to the following people for their work on the event: Margot Chafetz, Cindy Lentz, Michelle Frey, Linda Locke, Nina Barley, Michele McCarthy, Gail Markham, Mary Phalon, and Ann Sussman. Jenny thanked all the students who performed! Attendance was slightly up over last year and hopefully the dollars will end up slightly up as well. The team will be doing a post mortem on the event to determine what worked well and what did not. This will include possible

date change back to April, shorten entertainment, review of the auctioneer. The goal will remain to have a well priced event (\$30).

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

- Kathy reported that expenses in general are coming in as targeted. No issues to report. Spring for Education numbers are not complete yet.

#### **Principal's Report---Mr. McMorris**

- Mr. McMorris thank Jenny for the great success of the Spring Fling and for bringing the community together. Career Day, Challenge Days, and Campus Clean-Up are all great events that make Northgate a great place!
- On the subject of reduced credits for graduation, no one is sure yet how it will be implemented. Failures will be made up during the following school year. A waiver, signed by parents, will probably be required for taking only 4 classes' senior year.
- Please be sure to communicate any teacher concerns or good news around your child's teacher to Mr. McMorris.

#### **504 Plan Standards---Ms. Hayes & Ms. Brands**

- Ms. Hayes and Ms. Brands have been working on getting information for students with Individual Educational Plans or 504 plans on the Northgate website. A four year plan has been developed for those that are college bound. There is a series of publications that are available from the District that is being placed on the website for greater access for parents.

#### **WASC (Western Association of Schools & Colleges) ---Ms. Hayes**

- WASC is the group that oversees the accreditation of schools. Northgate's next visit in March 2011 and work has begun in earnest on the process and evaluation. The visiting team will make recommendations on the strengths and challenges facing a school after they have reviewed the report and interviewed teachers, administrators, students and parents. All groups are currently participating in the work (the first general meeting of all participants is today). There are 5 focus group leaders, one for each team: Vision, Assessment and Accountability, Instruction, Support, and Curriculum. Questions will focus around: How are the students achieving and is the school doing everything possible to support high achievement for all student?

#### **Committee Reports**

- **Northgate Pride—Karen Krueger:** The Lights and Bleacher project is still in the hands of the environmental firm. The dance floor is installed and being put to great use.
- **Boosters—Ruth Carver:** The Northgate Area Band performance is next week (March 23<sup>rd</sup>). This may be the last year to the music cuts in the elementary level. The Orchestra will be performing in the gym on March 25<sup>th</sup>. The Jazz Band will be at the Monterey Jazz Festival on April 9 – 11. There will be a car wash at Tice Valley to raise funds for Music Boosters—check their website for details. The Jazz Band will be at Yoshi's on May 17<sup>th</sup> and all bands will be at the Leshner concert on May 25<sup>th</sup>.
- **Athletic Boosters & UMDAF—Kent Caldwell:** Kent acknowledged the great season the Girl's Basketball team had—they went to the semi finals of the Northern California Championship—farther than any girl's team has ever gone in Northgate's history. Spring Sports are well underway. Athletic Boosters are looking for a President and Vice President for the coming school year. UMDAF is sponsoring a sports celebrity/auction event on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Pyramid Ale House in Walnut Creek. They are also co-hosting Kid's Fest on Memorial Day weekend by

supplying volunteers. The 2<sup>nd</sup> 5K run will be on 10/10/10. They hope to raise even more money than last year. They also are looking to do some grant writing to raise money.

- **PAC Meeting—Linda Locke:** Budget concerns and the associated cuts continue to be ongoing. Negotiations are going on regarding furlough days. The Board approved going for a facility bond to be placed on the June 2010 ballot. Always check the district website at [www.mdusd.k12.ca.us](http://www.mdusd.k12.ca.us) for the most recent information as well as the Monday memos.
- **Nominating Committee:** Now is the time to get involved if you are not already serving in a position. Contact Cindy at [clentz@astound.net](mailto:clentz@astound.net) to volunteer. We need volunteers for Spring Fling, Grad Night, and new positions of parent class representatives for each grade.
- **Challenge Days—Spalding Ashley:** Challenge Days are scheduled for March 29 & 30, many freshmen have signed up so they will have their own day. Volunteers are needed for registration and clean-up. The Be the Change Club has raised \$700 to make blankets for Trevor's project.
- **Campus Clean up—Spalding Ashley:** Clean up Day is scheduled for Saturday, March 27. Area leaders are needed. A dumpster was donated and the back area will be cleaned out. The path to the track is now asphalt. The Landscaping Committee is working on new plants and shrubs for the Dot Schmidt Garden.
- **Walk-Through Days—Patty Proctor:** The first day of school is Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> as currently planned. We will need 100 to 150 volunteers to work the 2 days. There will be a Fast Track process for those who bring completed forms from the online materials. Text books will also be checked out again this year.

#### **President's Report— Jenny Crosthwaite**

- Jenny thanked Lisa Stackpole for all her work in obtaining chaperones.
- March 24<sup>th</sup> is the Grand Opening of the Dance Studio.
- Lynda Hayes did an awesome job on Freshman Parent's Night!

**Next PFC Meeting will be Thursday, April 15th at 7:00 PM in the Northgate High School library.**

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