

**Northgate Parent Faculty Club
Minutes
Thursday September 2, 2009**

9:03 AM – Meeting called to order by Monica Fitzgerald.

Present: Monica Fitzgerald, Kathy Frattini, Karen Cramer, Donna Warnken-Brill, Ann Sussman, Cindy Lentz, Margot Chafetz, Linda Locke, Linda Middleton, John McMorris, Lisa Stackpole, Lisa Weaver,

Guests: Linda Loza, Ruth Carver, Alisa MacCormac, Jung Lee, Young Ju Lee, Janet Read, Dana Morris, Lisa Whittington, Anna Meniktas-Edwards, Jackie Pine, Linda Campbell, Janet Sheehy, Sherri Zack, Katie Senavsky, Kim Harris, Danielle Voorhees, Kara Navolio, Beth Coyle, Sonia Roscoe, Marina Kneppers, Char Hamilton

President's Report – Monica Fitzgerald

- Monica welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the school year and apologized for the change of the date and time. Going forward PFC meetings will be in the evening for the fall semester and in the morning for the spring semester.
- Monica introduced the Executive Committee and thanked all the volunteers who worked at Walk Through especially Donna Warnken-Brill and Patty Proctor for organizing the entire event.
- She also thanked the Communications team of Nina Barley, Laurie Allison, Laurie Chatoff and Antoinette Valle for all their work on the website and enews.
- The first meeting of the year for the Climate Committee will be next week.
- The parent clubs at Northgate have decided to again host a social event right before Winter Break—the date will be announced shortly.
- One of the goals this year is to increase communications on what students and faculty are doing. To that end, Peggy Spear will be preparing bi monthly press releases. If you have news to share, please be sure the information gets to Pat Fink, the office manager.
- September 26th is Campus Clean-Up Day.

Approval of Minutes: Cindy Lentz made a motion to approve the minutes of May 2009. The **motion passed.**

2009-2010 PFC Board – Cindy Lentz

Cindy Lentz made a motion to add Karen Cramer and Cathy Escobar ad Education Fund Co-Chairs for the 2009-2010 school year. The **motion passed.**

Treasurer's Report – Kathy Frattini

- Kathy reported that the Education Fund numbers are not where they need to be for the year. She also encouraged people to make sure they are registered for Escrip and that your Safeway card is renewed for the year. This is free money for the school so we really need to take advantage of it and increase those monies. If you would like to do a monthly installment plan for the Education Fund, please contact Karen Cramer cramerx4@astound.net or Cathy Escobar mcescobar@astound.net

Principal's Report---Mr. McMorris

- Mr. McMorris reported that from a scheduling perspective, we are ahead of where we were last year with regards to resolving issue. At this point in time, we are not fully staffed, missing 1

Spanish teacher. They are in the process of interviewing candidates and hope to make an offer shortly. Northgate lost 3 English teachers to the cuts. There are 2 new Spanish teachers this year. The school is down to 1 custodian and students need to make **extra** efforts throughout the year to pick up after themselves, particularly after lunch.

- STAR testing results were announced in August; Northgate improved 19 points to 854.
- Northgate is looking at Power Speak, an online learning program. Linda Loza is working with the district to gain approval.
- The drop off and pick up area is a mess. **Parents need to use the designated areas for drop off and pick up and not the red zones.**
- Mr. McMorris also thanked the Walk Through volunteers and the new textbook distribution worked really well.
- The district and school will be carefully monitoring the H1N1 virus situation; illnesses are tracked daily this year.
- There have been major changes within the Crisis Counselor program: Lance Friis has left the program after many dedicated years to work with the National Guard (many thanks to Lance for his years of helping youth). Jane Sondel will be working only at Foothill this year and Michele Dooner will be going on maternity leave from October through April. In the interim, Cindy Perryman will be rejoining Northgate and the interview process is underway for a three day a week person.

Landscape Report – Linda Middleton

- Linda reported that the team is gearing up for the Fall Campus Clean-up. They are thinking about a fundraising effort to sponsor some trees for the campus—more information to come.

Committee Reports

- **Education Fund—Karen Cramer:** As mentioned, donations are lower than budget. Possible solutions will be reviewed.
- **ASB Leadership**---No student representative assigned yet---no report.
- **PEAK**---(Partners in Educational Achievement K-12) ---Alisa MacCormac---Non profit status filing is in progress. The focus of the group is on downtown merchants and businesses to work with the Northgate feeder pattern as well as they do with WCEF. Contact information is Peakoffice@yahoo.com
- **Northgate Education Council**---The Council meets monthly with district, city representatives and members of the executive boards from all the feeder schools (Northgate, Foothill, Bancroft, Valle Verde, Walnut Acres) to work on communication between the schools and the city as well as a more cohesive approach toward education within the feeder pattern.
- **Northgate Pride**---Kara Navolio---Pride has seen a decline in donations. The EIR has been completed for the bleachers and lights and is posted on the district website. The public comment period is 45 days. On 9/16, the Fall Wine Walk will occur and donate a portion of the proceeds to NG Pride. Pride is also sponsoring a Poker Tournament on 10/10---see website for details.
- **Athletic Boosters**---Janet Sheehy---The annual Crab Feed is January 23, 2010 and Boosters is looking for a Silent Auction Chair. On September 12, Boosters is sponsoring a BBQ between the JV and Varsity Football games as a combination fundraiser for bleachers and community event. The 5K run/walk event to raise funds for UMDAF is scheduled for October 18th. A concert is being organized for the spring.
- **Music Boosters**---Ruth Carver---The marching band will be collecting donations at the March-a-thon on September 12.

- **Campus Clean-Up—Donna Warnken-Brill**—The Clean-up is scheduled for September 26 from 9 AM to Noon. Adult volunteers are needed to supervise the students. Mr. Aloo has returned to College Park. Until a replacement VP is hired, Mr. Beemer and Ms Hartman (former VPs at Northgate) are helping out.
- **PAC Meeting—Linda Locke**: Hiring a new Superintendent is a top priority for the district; a search company has been hired and is soliciting input. Always check the district website at www.mdusd.k12.ca.us for the most recent information as well as the Monday memos.
- **MDSUD VOICE—Linda Loza: (Vocal on Issues regarding children’s education)** is a newly formed group to further communication on education issues within the district and the state of California. It allows interested parents a venue to get engaged and to communicate on issues of interest whether via blog, Facebook or Twitter. The website address is <http://mdusdvoice.wordpress.com/>

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

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