

Northgate High School PFC Board Meeting
September 8, 2016 7:00 pm
Northgate High School Library
DRAFT Minutes

Present:

Joanna Sibley, Julie Chesnutt, Kanwal Sodhi, Miriam Casco, Monica Zorman, Katie Pierceall, Lisa Lamm, Holly Hewes, Tim Doran, Alisa MacCormac, Erica Randall, Jeff Randall, Lori Schauf, Casey Herbert, Michael McAlister, Lisa Huynh, Leah Kellum, Darlene Babcock, Kristin Mortl, Sally Anderson, Linda Graham, Lucy Chappel, Julie Stokel, Barb Wheeler, DeeDee Robillard, Jill Sandberg, Paul Sibley, Tamara Helfer, Allen Ables, Dana Morris, Kim Harris, Betsy Ortiz, Faye Mettler, Kathy Lawrence, Karen Jenkins, Rochie Gonzalez, Melissa Sunbury, Mike Escobar, Sabine Kroeber

7:05 pm – Meeting called to order by Joanna Sibley.

Welcome and Introductions

Principal's Report: Michael McAlister, School year off to a smooth start. Vision is excellence for and from every student, with goal of producing happy, healthy and innovative people. What makes this school great is three things, 1) the students, 2) the teachers, and the parent community. All are important. Half the teachers are new in past two years, giving the site additional freshness and bounce. Thanks to Joanna Sibley for stepping up to enthusiastically lead the PFC. We have energetic new Athletic Director and new VP Ben Campopiano, who came up through teacher ranks and fills out great VP team. WASC recertification happening this year is helping us move forward in identifying and implementing vision.

New WiFi system (installed by same company that did Levi's Stadium) is being tested and should be up and running in next few weeks. Teachers will each be issued ipads to pair with their Apple TVs in their classrooms. WiFi will allow use of departmental chromebook carts purchased last year. Thank you for the support to move things forward.

Treasurer's Report: Miriam Casco (see handout Statement of Activities (Budget-vs-Actual) 9/8/16) Strong start with 80% of EdFund budgeted donations already in. Need to continue work here, and hopefully get additional revenues through Spring for Ed and shopping rewards. Few expenses reflected yet. Will have better idea of our financial position by December. Lisa Lamm said most EdFund donations for the year are usually in by the end of September. DeeDee Robillard said their data shows that the

sophomore class contributed most often to the EdFund, indicating that more outreach could be targeted to other classes. Responding to a question about class sections, Mr. McAlister said the District has been generous in funding class sections for the past two years and he hasn't needed to use the PFC-budgeted sections.

Minutes: Motion: It was moved and seconded to approve the May 19, 2016 minutes as presented. Motion Passed. No opposition.

PFC Board Slate: (see handout "PFC Board Volunteers--2016-17) Motion: It was moved and seconded to approve the volunteers as listed for PFC board positions for the 2016-17 year. The open positions will be filled as additional volunteers are recruited. Motion Passed. No opposition.

PFC 2016-17 Calendar: (see handout "Northgate PFC Calendar 2016-17) Motion: It was moved and seconded to approve the calendar of PFC events as presented in handout. This list of PFC sponsored events is needed for insurance purposes. Additional dates will be voted in and approved as they become known throughout the year.

Discussion: Joanna Sibley presented a proposal, supported by the Executive Committee in its earlier meeting, to try a new schedule for PFC General Meetings for this school year, moving all meetings to 7 PM in the Library. Purposes would be for consistency of time and location, to better accommodate working parents' schedules, and to allow more time for discussion at meetings. Alternate morning meetings were intended to accommodate those with other work schedules, with younger children needing childcare, or with other evening obligations. They were also intended to make it easier for staff and administration to attend. Mr. McAlister indicated he would be willing to come to evening meetings to report, and Mrs. Jenkins indicated that it could also work with her teaching schedule. During morning meetings last year the teacher representatives had to alternate due to their class schedules. Last school year, PFC general meeting attendance was similar at both morning and evening time slots, averaging 11 attendees.

It was suggested that the group should postpone officially voting on this proposed schedule change until those actually attending a morning meeting could voice their opinions. A straw poll of those present indicated at least a majority support for the change to all evening meetings, with approximately 15 people present indicating that they would not be able to attend meetings in the mornings. This issue was tabled and will be discussed and voted on at the next meeting,

Motion Passed, no opposition, to approve PFC calendar as presented in handout (which leaves times and locations of previously morning-scheduled meetings listed as “Location and Time TBD”). The meeting schedule will be discussed and voted on at the next meeting, which will now be held on **October 20th at 9 AM in the Lecture Hall**.

Reports:

Athletic Boosters: Faye Mettler. Boosters are still looking for a President and for volunteers to run their crab feed fundraiser. 400 people usually attend this event, which at this point will not be happening unless a creative solution can be found. Team contributions and booster memberships are coming in strong.

Support Counselors: Faye Mettler. Support Counselors are on campus every day thanks to funding from the PFC and a grant from the City of Walnut Creek. Anyone can refer student to the service for short-term, confidential support. A written summary of highlights was submitted:

Here are some highlights of what Northgate Support Counselors have done so far and what will be done this year...

- * meet with students for emotional/psychosocial support.
- * met with Mary Phalon, counselor at Foothill Middle School, to get list of students who were promoted from Foothill and might need assistance in transition from middle school to high school. We are starting to see those students now.
- * participate in weekly Care Team meeting with VP, School Psychologist, School Nurse, and Academic Counselors to assess needs of students who are struggling academically, behaviorally and emotionally and provide appropriate referrals and follow up.
- * organize and run weekly support group for students at lunch.
- * attended and assisted at showing of Screenagers on Wednesday night.
- * work with Administrators regarding planning of additional Parent Education Nights.
- * attend staff meetings regularly.
- * met with new SRO (Officer Rosenbusch) to see how best to partner with her this school year.
- * maintain regular contact with administrators, teachers and Academic Counselors to coordinate best services for students.
- * attend SSTs when appropriate.
- * maintain statistics for maintenance of City of Walnut Creek grant.

Northgate Support Counselor
Shannon Brueckner MFT

Youth Educators: Faye Mettler. This program is funded by the Foothill PFA and its PEP program. It trains Northgate Juniors and Seniors to discuss issues such as drug and alcohol, bullying, etc. with Foothill 8th graders. They will be recruiting students soon, with training to start in the new year. Hoping to be able to send at least three trained students to each classroom.

NIMB: Tamara Helfer. NIMB parent organization provides financial and logistical support to Northgate's instrumental music programs. Beginning ambitious schedule. Marchathon is coming up this Saturday Sept. 10, which is a fundraiser for all programs. Marching Band will be in Twilight Parade Sept 18th, and Jazz I and Jazz Combo I will be performing at the Monterey Jazz Festival that day as reward for winning the NextGeneration Jazz Festival last year for the third year in a row. Fall concerts for Jazz Bands I and II will be Sept 29th, for Orchestra and Wind Ensemble Oct. 4th, and for Concert Band and Symphonic Band Oct. 6th, all at 7:30PM in the Little Theater.

Northgate PRIDE: Todd Silva. Organization supports capital needs for Northgate schools. Just completed big push for aquatics complex, and looking to rebuild their board of directors. Projects are long-term, so great to have families with younger students in the feeder pattern involved. Currently working with Mr. McAlister to develop several high-impact, lower-dollar projects.

PEAK: Kim Harris. PEAK is the educational foundation supporting all Northgate feeder-pattern schools. Have already completed Macy's Charity Shopping Day fundraiser, and looking forward to Walnut Run for Education coming up this Sunday. Please register to support PEAK or the school of your choice at <http://www.thewalnutrun.com/>. Turkey Trot will be coming up on Thanksgiving Day. PEAK also needs new volunteers for their board of directors, as they are working on funding a new \$200K STEAM proposal developed by the principals. If you are a volunteer with kids in all the schools, this would be a great way to contribute your talents.

PAC: Kim Harris. The Parent Advisory Committee representing all schools in the District was originally convened to help the Superintendent allocate LCAP funding. Its purpose is now changing. She will report back.

Campus Beautification: Julie Chesnutt. Planning underway for Campus Clean-Up Day Saturday Oct. 8. Project requests are flowing in, including interior and exterior painting, and will need many volunteers and resources. Please come out and help! Landscape architect Zac Innocinti is working with a teacher team to create new multi-use design for the atrium. We also need a landscape architect to develop long-term plans for several other areas, particularly the teacher parking lot entrance to the school and the swale area near the pool entrance. Joanna added that we will also be purchasing additional garbage cans and want additional seating in the front of the school and at several areas inside. When Northgate started, only Phase I of a multi-Phase building plan was ever built because of the passage of Prop 13. The school was

built without the planned sports facilities, science wing, cafeteria, landscaping, and other important facilities.

Grad Night: Lisa Lamm. Grad night is completely parent planned and sponsored in coordination with parents from College Park, Ygnacio Valley, Concord, and Las Lomas. Provides save, all-night party on graduation night. Great opportunity for senior and other parents to have fun and help.

Special Education: Lisa Lamm. Read thank-you letter sent to the PFC by Special Education Department chair Sandy Harris. Thanks for funding their release days, allowing them to better collaborate with teachers, parents, and administration in delivering services to our students with special needs.

Walk-Through Registration, Joanna Sibley. A follow-up meeting was held about what worked and how to improve flow. Will be relocating to the gym next year, assuring additional photographers, and planning team will be returning and mentoring two new organizers for smooth transition. Always hard when everyone shows up at the same time regardless of assigned time slots. Will be giving feedback again to the District about problems with website and service fees.

Enthusiastic about a great year ahead for the PFC and Northgate High School!

Meeting adjourned at approx. 8:15 pm.

Next Meeting: October 20th at 9 AM in the Lecture Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Chesnutt,
PFC Secretary