

APRIL MINUTES



NHS PAL MEETING MINUTES - - - April 16, 2025

Welcome & Introductions; In Attendance

Sherri Clerk, Lynn Sansosti, Carah Kiley, Sharon DeColfmacker, Rebecca Carlson, Yvonne LeBlanc, Erin Ibey, Crissa Kounavis, Megan Chartier, Nick LaPointe, student presenters

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March meeting were approved.

Administrative / Enrichment Update

- Maple Sugaring Update- some NHS students put on a presentation on the maple sugaring project
 - Jake LaPointe- 6th grader- gave a presentation on the history of maple syruping and how the program got started at NHS.
 - 4th graders shared their maple sugaring experience this year.
 - This is year three of the maple syrup project.
 - They drilled the trees- 16 taps in total.
 - They collected weather data starting in February.
 - March 13th was their first boil.
 - The new evaporator reduced the boiling time.
 - March 17th was their second boil.
 - 150 gallons of sap were collected which produced almost 3 gallons of syrup.
 - Students held a maple syrup craft sale.
 - They went to the kindergarten classroom and read them a maple sugar book and gave them ice cream with maple syrup.
 - 4th grade students loved the project and it was a great experience for them.
 - They were very thankful to PAL for the donations.
- Jaggy Awards- Friday 4/18.
- Service Dog- The service dog Goliath visited the school. He was a huge hit with the students. He will be coming in to visit for 2 days a month for the rest of this school year.
- May 14th – There are a lot of events on this day. Early release day, art show, plant sale, book fair, and family fun night.

- April 22nd - Author Melissa Stuart coming to the school to give presentations. The school will be using one of her books for the first story walk.
- Family Book Club update- Betsy would like to do another one this year but she's not sure she will have time before the end of this school year. Going forward she would like to do two a year. The first one was a big success.
- Staff Room/Kitchen Renovation- Nick LaPointe attended the meeting. He works for Home Depot and was able to get a \$5,300 grant approved for the renovation. It will include cabinets, countertops, and appliances. It should be completed around April vacation. Dustin will do the install with help from Home Depot. Home Depot will also do the painting. The goal is to try to surprise the teachers.
- Discussed starting Kind Words for Great Teachers project- students can recognize a teacher or staff member each month and it will be spotlighted in the school.

Budget

- The account balance is approximately \$25,000- checking and saving combined.
- We received a \$625 check from the Community Oven.
- We are waiting for a check from Seacoast Soups for \$1K.
- We made \$2,310 from our March charitable gaming dates.
- The Brook charitable gaming- working on our application for next year.
- We paid a \$100 deposit for the photo booth for GALA.
- Retirement gifts- discussed different ideas and will fund the gifts.
- Retirement gifts, 8th grade yearbook, and teacher appreciate week- outstanding items to be paid for between now and the end of the year.

Events / Fundraisers / Direct Donations ('24-'25)

- Next Charitable Gaming dates- July 1-4.
- Teacher Appreciation Week- around the world theme. Each day will have a different country theme of special treats. There will also be a daily gift card raffle. Still in need of some more donations.
- GALA update- GALA- the theme will be Sweet Celebration. It will be held on 5/31 from 6pm-8pm at the school. We will have raffle items, a DJ, a photo booth, and a few activities. We discussed maybe bringing back the cake walk. We also may need lighting so we can use the playground.

- We will put on a Fall Festival and/or a Pumpkin Stroll. We will need to start thinking about putting a committee together soon so the planning can begin before the start of the next school year.

Discussion / Other Business

- We have a new PAL logo.
- The PAL website continues to be updated.
- The May meeting will be the last meeting of the year.

Voting / Position Changes

- **PAL Recruitment:**
- **Seeking Co-Chair for next year (2025-2026)**

Next Meeting Date

Wednesday May 21st 6pm at the NHS library

PAL 2023-2024 Executive Board

Co-Chairs: Sherri Clerk & Lynn Sansosti

Enrichment Coordinator: Catherine LaCroix

Treasurer: Caitlin McCown

Secretary: Carah Kiley

Web/eCommerce Administrator: Sharon DeColfmacker

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:30 p.m. and was passed unanimously.