

## NSPA MEETING MINUTES, 2/18/09 - DRAFT

**1. Call to Order:** NSPA President Tom Grumbly called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. He distributed the meeting agenda, copy below.

**Other Board Attendees:** Joanna Cole, Ross Gorte, Maril Levy, Mike McGurrin, Brenda Mutchler, Betsy Sue Scott and Nancy Vibert.

**Board Members Absent:** Melissa Dana, Clare Dean, Kathy Ginsberg, Lyn Goodman, Donna Kraemer, Caitlin Lhommedieu, and Patti Oehmke.

**Other Attendee(s):** Donnalyn Adams

**1. Approval of the December and January Meeting Minutes:** The December and January Meeting minutes were approved with one correction to include the name of an attendee at both meetings. Secretary Betsy Sue Scott will forward a copy of each to Webmaster Mike McGurrin for posting on the NSPA website.

**2. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Ross Gorte reported that a detailed Treasurer's Report was not available for the meeting. He stated that \$626 had been paid out for a deposit for food for the upcoming Auction and for the November Faculty Q&A. He also reported there were no outstanding bills at this time.

### **3. Old Business:**

**a. Scholarships -** The Secretary/Scholarship Committee chair reported on the status of the two scholarship applications received in December. While all information remained confidential and the applicants' and an adult's identities not disclosed, she related that she had interviewed one adult involved in the applications. That adult was unaware that the two students had applied to the NSPA for scholarship assistance. The chair also reported that neither application had been signed by that adult or, in fact, by the students or anyone else, and that the balance of all tuition payments due the School had been remitted in December. The Scholarship and Executive Committees agreed to meet after the Board meeting to consider the applications and to report the outcome to the Board at its March meeting. The Board discussed the need for persons over age 18 years of age to sign an NSPA scholarship application and for a tuition payment to be due at the time of application. The Board decided to determine, at the April meeting, the availability of scholarship funding for the 2009-2010 school year and to broaden the existing information given to the school community about the NSPA's application process, including the decision-making process.

**b. Prom -** Alumni Representative/Faculty member Joanna Cole reviewed the background to this year's planned Prom. The Prom Committee consists of five students to fundraise and organize the event. She serves as Faculty advisor to the student

Committee. The students had, at the time of the meeting, a total of \$358 on hand raised through weekly Wednesday pizza sales, a bake sale, and a Valentine's Day candy sale and now hold fundraisers on an ongoing basis. They requested initially that the NSPA provide seed money up to \$5,000 for the Prom. They have revised that request to indicate that a lower amount would be sought once they had more information on another proposed venue which Joanna and they have identified, *i.e.* The Grand Atrium, on Gallows Road in Vienna. The new destination would be less expensive than the initial choice because it would include decorations and food in its price per attendee. The Board compared the request to last year's loan of \$1,850, with approximately \$1,000 forgiven for the price of faculty chaperone tickets. The Board voted, with one objection, to lend the Prom Committee up to 50% of the cost of securing a contract for the Prom venue, with a maximum set at \$3,000.

**c. Auction** – The Vice President said that plans for the Auction on March 14<sup>th</sup> are moving ahead. Donations are down from last year. One Grade Representative is experiencing difficulty in collecting Class basket contents. The Board had previously decided to allocate the Auction proceeds to the Prom and Graduation. Joanna will ask HS students to assist at the Auction in recognition of the NSPA's support of the Prom. She will also explore whether the students might present music at the Auction as a Prom fundraiser. The President and Vice President discussed having another Auction planning meeting in view of the imminence of the event.

**d. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala** – The Vice President reported that John Potter discovered a schedule conflict for the date on which the Gala had been set. The Sheraton had another date available and she has arranged a new date for the Gala. It now will be May 31<sup>st</sup>. John has requested audio-visual equipment at the event which will up the price. The Board suggested asking him to make those arrangements on his own.

**e. Delinquent Taxes** – The President reported that the NSPA does not appear to have filed nonprofit tax returns for the last three years and that he is undertaking to have those prepared. The Board noted that interest may accrue and that penalties may be assessed for those delinquent taxes.

**f. Sales Tax Exemption** - The President stated that he would seek the sales exemption once he has filed the delinquent tax returns.

**4. New Business: Parents Council of Washington** – The Secretary/PCW Board liaison to the New School reported that the School had named two students to attend the PCW's Student Leader Breakfast on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Faculty Advisor Maril Levy will check with the students, Ben Fletcher and Clayton Miller, for a report on their participation. Upcoming PCW events include Best Practices on Dealing with Student Stress (March 5<sup>th</sup>), Dean of Students Luncheon (April) and PTA Presidents Luncheon at Mt. Vernon (May 5<sup>th</sup>).

**5. Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Board will take place at 7 p.m. on March 18th.

**6. Adjournment:** The President adjourned the Board meeting at 8:20 p.m.

**Minutes prepared by Betsy Sue Scott, Board Secretary**

New School Parents Association

February 18, 2009

700PM

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes from January 21, 2009 Meeting
2. Treasurers Report (Ross Gorte)
3. Scholarship Report (Betsy Sue Scott)
4. Prom Discussion ( Nancy Vibert)
5. Spring Auction Status (Patty Oehmke)
6. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Update (Nancy Vibert)
7. Tax Filing Update (Tom Grumbly)
8. New Business ( All Board Members and Parents)
9. Adjournment.