

PTSA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Neelsville Middle School

November 14, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

In Attendance

1. Mrs. Barbara Escobar, Principal
2. Sarah Belonia, PTSA President
3. Rebekah Harris, PTSA Treasurer
4. Sofya Orlosky, PTSA Secretary
5. Melissa Sigley
6. Nicolas Rudd
7. Mukhammad Akbar
8. Ms. Rudd
9. Amanda Biugos
10. Cornelius
11. Denia Ramos
12. Djamilatouh Bah
13. Katie Dellapa
14. Kristina Angell
15. Masika Hinds
16. Mike Owens
17. Nathan Steward
18. Rob B
19. Person #1 on iphone
20. Person #2 on iphone
21. Stephanie
22. Supriya Herwadkar
23. Susan Owens
24. Theo Kweme
25. Jose Vásquez
26. Vibha Bhatia
27. Person on a Samsung phone
28. Nathan Steward
29. Elle
30. Benjamin Bojang
31. Gisella Greenlun
32. Ibrahima Diallo
33. Ana
34. Ashley Wan
35. SCG3 Events
36. Eunice Melo
37. Wayman Ka
38. Kapree Budd

Proceedings

Meeting commenced at 6:30 p.m. online via Zoom.

1. **Budget update:** Lots of membership dues are coming in, thank you for your awesome participation! Spending reflects purchases of food and snacks for Teacher Appreciation events, payment of Neelsville's dues to the State-wide PTA, and other operating expenses.

2. Fundraising:

- Next restaurant night is **December 5 at Chipotle in the Milestone Shopping Center**. Please order in person or online to have a portion of the proceeds donated to Neelsville PTSA!
- In January, we'll have **Panda Express in Germantown all day on January 23**.
- Please use other ways to fundraise for the school! GiveBacks, HarrisTeeter, KrispyKreme, Clothes Bins (see slides).

3. **Pie Giveaway!** This is a seasonal tradition to support our teachers. Please sign up to donate pies and snacks using the SignUp link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F49ADAA23A6FBC34-45962563-thanksgiving#/> . All pies should be dropped off at the school on Monday November 20.

If you cannot contribute a pie, please make consider making a donation to purchase snacks for parent-teacher conferences: <https://neelsvillems.memberhub.com/store/items/741927>

4. **Junior Achievement Finance Park** trip is an opportunity for 7th graders to learn about personal finance management. We need parent volunteers for about 5 hours on one of the following days: December 13, 14, or 15. Please contact Ms. Budd or any other Word Studies teachers if you're interested. Thank you!
5. **Construction Update:** Henley Construction staff provided an update. Roof is 75% complete. Brick on the outside is about 50% complete, at least two more months of brick work. Inside work is in full swing with air units and other big units being set up. Installing storm, water, sewer, gas lines along the road. The giant dirt pile is being moved to where the old tennis courts are and this is important because the space under the dirt pile will be freed to set up basketball courts and green space for when the new school is completed. Construction is on track to close up the building before serious winter weather arrives.
6. **School Improvement Plan:** The SIP in the county has changed to be more reflective of the anti-racist emphasis, and is a three-year action plan. Neelsville staff are aligning instruction with SIP to promote growth for all students, but specifically Latinx/Hispanic students, in Math and Literacy. School Culture/Climate and School Well-Being are two other goals, focused on building trust between students and staff and helping students regulate their emotions, and on school attendance and thoughtful approach to discipline. Please see Mrs. Escobar's presentation on SIP in the slides.

There have been no disciplinary incidents this year; chronic absenteeism rate at Neelsville has dramatically dropped from over 30% to about 20% this year. You can track your child's attendance, as well as many other school-related items, in ParentVue! Contact Ms. Martinez if you have trouble accessing ParentVue.

7. **Class registration deadlines for next year!** Please look out for flyers and details on the following:

- **December 6** - registration information night for rising 7th and 8th graders
- **December 11** - class registration during science classes
- **December 13** - Seneca Valley HS information night at SVHS
- **January 9** - information night for current 8th graders on high school registration at Neelsville (both Seneca Valley HS and Watkins Mill HS will present on the same day)

8. Fun stuff:

- **November 20** - parent-teacher conferences, so sign-ups, just come in between 1 and 6:30
- **December 1** - 8th Grade Field Trip to National African American History Museum
- **December 12-14** - Junior Achievement field trip
- **December 14** - Invent the Future field trip to KIDMuseum
- **January 18** - Invent the Future field trip to KIDMuseum
- **February TBD** - 6th grade field trip to iFly
- **April 15-19** - 6th grade Outdoor Education

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.