

# **NEMS Parent Advisory**

## **Minutes**

### **11.29.2017**

**In attendance = Kate Jeffries - parent  
Laura Boss - principal  
Kim Rollins - school counselor**

#### **1. Updates - Laura Boss**

##### **Q & A**

**Is there any issue at our school with the lunch money accounts? I read an article last night about this and the subsequent response from the community that kids who don't have lunch money are sent to the Principal to get "substitute lunch". According to one person's account, one child had gummy bears because that's all that was available. What's the process at NEMS and is there anything i/we can do to help to be proactive?**

**Answer - parents may apply for free or reduced lunch and are allowed a grace period until applications are reviewed. If they are approved all past amounts are excused. If they are not approved all past due accounts are the responsibility of the parent. Students who have a negative lunch balance are offered a healthy snack alternative which consists of a choice of juice box, chocolate milk, fruit cups, PB or cheese crackers, slim jim and pretzels. Unfortunately, federal regulations prohibit the Child Nutrition Program from having bad debts. Therefore any student lunch debts owed must be paid by the school out of the general funds account which is already limited and cannot support full lunch prices. This is why we offer healthy snack alternatives for students while they are at school. If parents are in need of assistance, they can contact the school and we can work with them in anyway we can to help.**

**If a student notices another student's social media content includes questionable content such as suggestive depression or cutting, what do we do about that?**

**Answer - encourage the student to tell their parent and then report that to an adult at school as soon as possible.**

**If a student overhears "possible" talks about a fight being planned between other students, what do we do about that?**

**Answer - encourage the student to report that to an adult as soon as possible.**

- 2. Parent Engagement Representative - Kathrine Dudley**
  - a. Updates will be shared when they become available.**
- 3. Teacher Appreciation Week Coordinator - Mrs. Hulse & Mrs. Jeffries**
  - . February fundraiser to support teacher appreciation week.**
- 4. Valentine Day fundraiser - Mrs. Jeffries**
  - . Mrs. Jeffries will bring ideas to the table at our January meeting. Possible "crush" soda sales.**

- 5. **Ceiling tile fundraiser**
  - . **More information to come. We are still looking for a volunteer to head this project.**
- 6. **Increasing parent involvement - Mrs. Boss**
  - 1. **Administrators to make announcement at the beginning of school wide events to visit the “parent advisory” table in the cafeteria.**
    - 1. **Parent advisory “tri-fold board” to be used during school wide events. Mrs. Boss will ask Mrs. Grau to create a board . The board will include pockets for flyers and a sign-up sheet for new parents interested in more information.**
    - 2. **Emailing newsletters and other school wide documents to parents in addition to the hard copies that go home.**
- 7. **Building improvements - Mrs. Boss**
  - . **We are making improvements as money becomes available.**
    - 1. **Updating chalk & shower boards with modern white boards.**
    - 2. **Continue painting**
    - 3. **Landscaping**
- a. **Next Meeting - January 17, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m. (3rd Wednesday of each month).**