



Meeting Minutes

NAHS Virtual Meeting
November 4, 2020 ~ 7 pm

Attendees:

- Co-President: Sharon Ruddy
- Vice President: Jean Bullock
- Secretary: Stacey Nassaney
- Administration: Principal Haviland

Principal's Update:

- **Communication** from the office will continue to be weekly on Fridays. All communications (e.g. activities, athletics, PTO, etc.) are consolidated into this one weekly email with links to the NAHS ePack. With Thanksgiving on 11/26, he is going to speak with Cheryl Kummer about sending that particular week's update on Monday, 11/30, instead of Friday, 11/27. It will include a reminder about the PTO meeting on 12/2 and also clarify how parents can connect to the virtual meeting by providing the link.
- **Graduation** is scheduled for Friday, 6/4, and he requested all graduating seniors and their families also reserve Saturday, 6/5, and Sunday, 6/6 as backup dates. With COVID-19, it is unknown if any additional restrictions may be mandated by the state to ensure everyone's safety. An outdoor ceremony seems most feasible for ventilation, etc. Since we cannot predict potential inclement weather on Friday, 6/4, the dates of 6/5 and 6/6 are needed to make the outdoor ceremony possible.
- **Spirit Week** is a priority for the newly elected class officers and student council members as they really want to celebrate school spirit during these challenging times. They are brainstorming ways to encourage students to safely show their school spirit during the week before Thanksgiving.
- **New guidelines** from Governor Baker about COVID-19 differs for schools. Per the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), mask breaks are still permitted. Fresh air is always helpful during these times and he encourages students to plan on bringing coats, hats and gloves to wear when the weather gets colder for students to benefit from fresh air outside. Most students are outside walking to and from the NAMS parking lot in the mornings and afternoons, and a few minutes outside during mask breaks won't be as long as it typically takes them to walk to or from the school from the NAMS parking lot. As the weather gets colder, warmer clothing is needed.
- **Professional Development Day** on Tuesday, 11/3, focused on progress reports and attendance data. The day was spent working to unify goals to embrace deeper learning and increase the frequency of engaging students and parents as much as possible.

continued



continued

- **Staff Appreciation** is something the student leaders want to do for all teachers and staff before Thanksgiving to thank them for all they've done during the pandemic. Heather Baril, Director of School Nutrition, is familiar with how to make sure their ideas are done safely during COVID-19 and has agreed to assist them in their desire to provide special refreshments for the teachers and staff. The event is currently slated for 11/18 and he will let the students know that the PTO is willing to assist however needed as we all appreciate what the teachers and staff do for our students.
- **Green Bandana Project** was discussed last spring and last month's meeting. The timeline is still January and Principal Haviland meets with Jim Johnson about Active Minds on 11/6. NAHS had its first Active Minds meeting in late October. During an X-Block in the future, the school is planning to share an important video, "It's Okay Not to be Okay" with students. A card with resources available to students will be designed for distribution along with green bandanas. Jean will work with Cheryl Kummer to purchase the bandanas for the students and Jean is also getting samples of their offerings to determine preferred size, etc. We plan to get the bandanas soon since the pandemic may cause unexpected delays.

PTO's Update:

- **Kindness Closet** ~ Sharon shared an idea to seek donations of coats, hats, gloves and mittens to promote fresh air during mask breaks in colder weather. Principal Haviland will touch base with Molly Kelleher, Kate Antonitis and Kate Violet about any needs for the Kindness Closet and will let us know.
- **Stop & Shop A+ Rewards Program** ~ Sharon receives the updates on the 10th of each month, so she'll know soon what the numbers are from October to share at next month's meeting. After last month's meeting, NAHS had 317 supporters with a total of \$644.99 from August and September.
- **Support** is something the PTO is always seeking to do. We look forward to providing funds for the Green Bandana Project and the Staff Appreciation event planned in November. We also look forward to hearing back on how we can assist rallying for donation of needed items for the Kindness Closet.
- **Next PTO Meeting** ~ All NAHS PTO meetings are slated to be virtual meetings this year due to the COVID pandemic. The meetings are scheduled on the 1st Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is December 2nd at 7pm. A link with how to connect to the virtual meeting will be communicated and posted in the NAHS ePack.