

Draft NESAs pARTners Membership Meeting Minutes Sept 6, 2023 7PM in the Black Box

NESA students and pARTners greeted arrivals and collected concessions donations. Asking members to sign up for and deliver soda & snack donations to the first meeting was VERY successful.

Meeting was called to order at 7:04pm with over 50 attendees. Members signed in, and non-members who signed in will be invited to join partners.

Financial Report-Lisa Kamenick reported Opening balance \$18,423.30, Total Expenses \$2184.05

Minutes from the May 2023 meeting were approved. Angie Ogawa reported that NESAs pARTners had 123 members. Membership by Sept 29th is required for Scholarships eligibility. The major department with the highest percentage of members will receive an additional \$100 gift from NESAs pARTners. Our goal is to exceed 2019 membership levels of 143 members.

New Business

1. NESAs Cinema Department director Mr. Richeler Aladin was introduced and thanked NESAs pARTners for their support of all the directors. He shared that he encourages Cinema students to take risks in their work and not be afraid to push boundaries with their art. He hopes they create stories from the heart and mind. We look forward to the 800# Gorilla film festival in the spring. Technical theater director, Ms. Mikulski and Instrumental Music Director, Connor Towns were also in attendance. Closed

2. Jules Aldaz Guerra reported that the Bylaws had been updated over the summer to reflect current practices. The Proposed Bylaws were put to a vote and approved; the updated version will be posted on NESAparters.net. Closed

3. Lisa Kamenick, presented the proposed budget for 2023-24 school year explaining that over the last few years, excess cash has been carried over. The budget is set to spend to a net loss of \$13,445.10 this year to reduce our carry-over to \$5000 in accordance with IRS standards for non-profit organizations. A new budget line was added for Student Trip Donation of \$1875. The proposed budget was approved and will be posted on NESAparters.net. Closed

4. Nancy Pardo discussed the need for a parent representative in each major to attend meetings, share information with parents in that major and serve as a liaison between those parents and the board: Major Reps will be provided with a roster of names of NESA pARTners members in their Major. OPEN

Cinema: Silas De La Rosa (student) Jessica De La Rosa (parent)

Creative Writing: Monica Lerma

Dance: Ana Vazquez

Instrumental Music:

Musical Theater: Maggie Wilmoth

Technical Theater: Catherine Brown (Student) & Laura Mendenhall (Parent)

Visual Arts: Heather McKinney

5. Crystal Pounds discussed all the upcoming fundraising spirit nights, Krispy Kreme Donuts, (Sept 7), Chipotle (Oct 2), Kendra Scott (Oct 14) and Silent Auction (Oct 29). She invited willing volunteers to stay after the meeting to discuss Fund Raising Committee. Open

6. Mary Schnick and Kelly Fitzmaurice thanked all those who donated concessions items and encouraged all to sign up for concessions volunteers. Members were invited to stay after for a tour/discussion of concessions duties. Sept 15 VA Show and IM Fall Concert will be the first concessions event this year. Closed.

7. Mrs. Evans, NESAs principal, reported that enrollment was currently at 323 students. NESAs is growing especially in the Creative Writing and Technical Theater departments. Enrollment capacity in Visual Arts is unlimited. Instrumental music requirements/vacancies are very specific. She explained that NESAs budget includes funds for recruiting, and that pARTners can best support recruiting efforts by spreading the word about NESAs auditions (Oct 11 and Jan 27) and NESAs performances in their home campus communities. Mrs. Evans answered questions about service hours. NESAs does NOT require service hours, but students may enhance their resumes by volunteering and logging hours in the Presidential Volunteer Service Awards System. She emphasized that NESAs students are required to do 1 "Out of Major" critique every nine weeks. North East Educational Foundation awarded Ms. Amy Charney, Creative Writing Director with a \$33K grant towards a Web series called "Fameish". Fameish will be a collaboration across all the majors with the students contributing their art to the series. It may become an elective class. This project will be further promoted during "The Big Give". Head Shots are being taken Friday and Saturday for all NESAs students free of charge. The photos will be used to create NESAs Student IDs. Parents may request the digital image by emailing Ms. Vanessa Garcia. All pARTners were encouraged to sign up for Mrs. Evans weekly Smore newsletter. The trip to New York City for all the majors (Chicago for Tech Theater) kicks off a goal for NESAs students to travel two times during their 4 years. Donations to NESAs trips and NESAs are tax deductible. A suggestion was taken to have CCMR guest speaker at a pARTners meeting to keep parents informed of college and career planning. Mrs. Evans said she will discuss with Ms. Graham from LEE HS. Closed

Announcements & Questions

Parents were encouraged to share photos with NESAs pARTners throughout the year so they can be presented during the end of year banquet.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm