

Nova PTO Upper School Parent Advisory 12-5-2013 Meeting Minutes – Draft “Strengthening the Nova Community”

Attendance: Tanya Olson (grade 10 parent—she and her husband need to be added to the list as co-room parents for that grade), Sara Waters for grade 7, Jo Burr for grade 9, and Mary Corrigan who represents SoL and SoR.

2. We talked about all the US events for parents in the month of November (four) and how that seemed like a lot.

- a. Need to have Motivation early in the year
- b. Need to have SoR overview during early enrollment season
- c. Could have Reading in October
- d. Ways to get US parents to attend events?
 - i. No Homework Nights help!
 - ii. Promise of breakout sessions for parents/kids to talk to each other more
 - iii. Reminders sent by email day of
 - iv. “Date Night/Ed Night” format? (Not sure this is tongue-in-cheek?)

3. Winter Treats for the Upper School

- a. Volunteers eager but didn’t know where to go to sign up
- b. Will be during lunch times and have treats for allergies
- c. Anything else needed? If so, grade level captains stand at the ready to email out requests

4. 6th Grade Bonding

- a. Scheduled for 1/27 (a no school day: discussed if that would be an issue. Most said no.)
- b. Hope for this to be some sort of physical activity event (SkyZone, etc.) that would help the kids get energy out, have a great time together, see each other in a new light
- c. Busing was discussed and parents unanimously voted for Yes to having busing available as it makes the trip easier for families. Drop off at the school and pick up at the school.
- d. Event time was discussed—maybe 10:30 to 2?
- e. Communication: Email from principal, Nova News, Sign Up Genius, etc.
- f. Should include food of some kind
- g. What to do if these places are booked? (In-House event?)

5. 7/8 Event Winter Event

- a. Winter Wonderland idea was talked about—maybe a Como Park afternoon trip with sledding. Maybe Theodore Wirth?
- b. Sometime in February, maybe a Friday after school?
- c. Would need some key parents to help Mrs. Morton put this together. Any takers?

6. Snow Daze

- a. Discussed how this will be smaller than Homecoming (especially for SoL as there were too many events, dress-ups, schedule changes)
- b. 6-8 will have no dress up, but maybe could participate on the final Friday? Something different/bit less than the 9-12 who need something important of their own

7. Other events on the calendar were noted but not discussed in detail

8. Meeting Adjourned (about 6:00 PM)