

**NOME PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION**  
**P.O. Box 1565**  
**Nome, AK 99762**

**Minutes of November 13, 2013**

President, Julie Kelso called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., in the Nome Elementary School library. The following individuals were in attendance:

Kelsey Beecher	Scott Handley
Janet Balice	Julie Kelso
Betsy Brennan	Kaley Overbey
Rochelle Bushey	Janeen Sullivan
Bob Grimes	Crystal Tobuk
Nina Grimes	

**Wellness Team**

Kelsey Beecher, Youth Obesity Prevention Advocate for Nome Community Center shared the new USDA regulations that will take effect next year regarding food served in schools. Julie asked if the new regulations apply to snacks served in school as well. Kelsey answered that only food that is sold in schools comes under the regulations, but other foods could be covered by school policy. Julie also wondered if the Otter Pops that are given occasionally as reading prizes present a problem. Rochelle stated that she felt the Otter Pops are not a problem and pointed out that for incentives to be effective, it has to be something that the children want. Rochelle also had concerns over including in the wellness policy the snacks that parents donate, as we don't want to discourage parent participation in the schools or come across as ungrateful for their support.

Kelsey also shared some statistics, including the fact that 65% of our population falls in the obese or overweight category. Kelsey is in charge of an Obesity Prevention grant, which was obtained by Nome Community Center as a bypass grant through the schools. Kelsey is looking to form a Wellness Team that would work to set school nutrition/physical activity goals and policies. The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 21 at 4 pm in Room 103 at Nome-Beltz High School.

**Community Engagement**

Kaley Overbey, the Community Engagement Advocate (CEA) for Nome Public Schools explained her position. The CEA focuses on engaging communities, parents and students to support student learning. The CEA links community and school and facilitates youth-adult partnerships. The CEA works closely with the Community Engagement team to coordinate and promote the youth-serving community engagement activities taking place as part of the district's strategic plan and its partnership in the Alaska Association of School Boards. There will be a Community Engagement Meeting Tuesday, Nov. 19 @ 5:30 pm at Nome Elementary School. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Nome-Beltz Curriculum Committee**

Math curriculum that is aligned with Alaska State standards and Common Core will be adopted this year 7-12 grade. Nome-Beltz principal, Scott Handley is looking for people to serve on the

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committee. The adoption process will be completed by March 2014. Julie asked if the elementary school will be coordinating their efforts regarding math curriculum with the junior high to ensure a smooth transition from 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Mr. Grimes felt that as long as the chosen textbooks are in alignment with the standards, there should not be a problem.

**Elementary Attendance**

Nome Elementary Principal, Bob Grimes reports that attendance has improved, particularly in the area of tardies. He will be giving an award for the 4th grade where attendance is the best.

**Safe Routes to School**

Safe Routes to School has a meeting on Thursday, Nov. 14 at Nome Eskimo Community. Suggestions for improving routes to school are: better lighting, flashing signs, parking lot restructuring, crossing guards and a daily PSA on the radio about children walking to school.

**Grandparents' Day**

Mr. Grimes will approach NES staff at their next meeting for a committee to implement this.

**Spelling Bee**

The bee is set for January 22, 2014. Ms. Bourdon and Mr. Leistiko are conducting 3<sup>rd</sup> grade practices. Ms. Teresa Johnson and Mr. Lastine are in charge of 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade practices. Angie Snodgrass is heading up the Beltz junior high practices and Julie is in charge of ACSA practices. Judges and scorekeepers are needed for the spelling bee event.

**Approval of 9-25-13 Minutes**

Minutes from last meeting approved without change.