

Northside PTA Meeting February 12, 2026

7:03 pm Called to order and stand for Pledge

Principal Report- Mrs Case

- Winter concert was excellent. Band and Chorus participation is growing every year.
- Each grade will have a chance to visit the Learning Center.
- Hired an additional employee for Cafeteria. Food is prepared fresh for each lunch period.
- Every week school administrators have a security meeting to discuss any issues.
- Fantastic book fair & Someone Special dance
- 5th Grade will be visiting Commerce Plaza
- First K Kids Club installation last week.
- iReady testing is complete
- Climate Committee will be meeting in March. Planning a pair up to do a lesson on dignity.
- 100 day of school and P.S. I Love You day is this week
- A security guard is in the back parking lot at dismissal to help with traffic

1st VP- Cristina Hennelly- Revamping and creating folders for PTA committees that recap all the necessary information for each committee's endeavors such as committee goals, steps to complete, tips for success, necessary contacts, etc. Reaching out to committee chairs in the coming weeks to discuss in more detail.

2nd VP- Kristen Ghisone- PTA currently has 210 members.

3rd VP- Corrine Molinet- United Skates Fundraiser will be on March 4th 6:30-8:30. Tickets must be purchased in advance. \$23 for skaters and that includes skate rental, a slice of pizza and small drink. \$7 for non-skaters includes a slice of pizza and a small drink. Link and QR code for purchase will be provided via parent square and Facebook. Please come in your best spirit wear to enter the contest and a prize will be presented to the winner.

4th VP- Ms Cambria & Mrs Atchison- We want to thank the PTA for the Book Fair and the Someone Sweet Dance. The kids had a blast! We are concluding P.S I Love You Week on Friday, which promotes mental health awareness and bullying prevention.

Treasurer- Natalia Martin – current balance is \$58,709.29

Corresponding Secretary- Nadira Foo – no report

Recording Secretary- Allison Colby – No corrections to last meeting. Minutes stand as written.

Delegate Report – Please see report attached

Family Fun – The PTA hosted the annual Someone Special dance on 2/6. We had a great turnout. 124 students the first session and 140 students the second session. A huge thank you to all the volunteers that helped out with the event.

SEPTA – Color run on April 18th at Memorial

Northside Alumni Award- Please sign up to be on committee.

Transportation- BOE reviewed ridership for late buses. Due to low ridership some buses have been canceled. Working on improving parental communication procedures for bus incidents. Please contact school if you are not receiving bus updates. Still hiring drivers & aids. Students attending private or parochial school must submit an online transportation application on or before April 1, 2026. An incident was investigated regarding a report of a driver opening a window during freezing temperatures. Parents have some concerns regarding temperatures on buses. Thermometers will be installed. There was a bus accident involving 10 Wisdom students. Students were brought to the school and checked by the nurse. Parents had concerns about not being notified sooner.

Reflections- 2 of the 5 Northside student finalists have advanced to the NYS PTA for judging at the state level. The Nassau Region will host a Reflection Reception in the Spring and an invitation will go out to these two finalists. We will be honoring all 5 Northside finalists at the March PTA meeting and invitations have already gone out to these students. We hope you will be in attendance to help support and celebrate our creative students!

Book Fair- Was successful. Final sale totals are being calculated.

Honorary Life- Mrs Nizinski is the Honorary Life Recipient for 2026. The celebration dinner will be held on 4/29.

Nominating Committee- Moved by Faith Dermody Second by Cristina Hennelly. All are in favor and none are opposed. 2026 Nominating Committee will be Marinda O'Toole, Natalia Martin, Kristin Ghisone, Jamie Oellantoni & Giuseppina Stigler. Alternate is Allison Colby.

Student Council- Next meeting will be Feb 24th.

Slingo- April 17th if you have any unused and unwanted presents or gift cards we would love to be able to put them to good use in a Slingo basket! Also if you or someone you know owns a business or has connections, we would greatly appreciate any donations for raffle.

5th Grade- Rico's fundraiser raised \$200. T Shirts will be ready next week. Yearbook is on track.

High School Liaison- Daniel Smith from DAHS won the News12 Scholar Athlete.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:36pm

PTA Council Report – 2/3/26 Meeting

- By next month, all units should have completed their midyear audit, reviewing the books for the first half of the year.
- Begin forming nominating committees for upcoming elections, following bylaws for timelines and procedures.
- The next council meeting will be held on March 10.

Treasurer's Report

- **General Account**
 - Opening Balance: **\$8,890.07**
 - Income: **\$1,350.00**
 - Closing Balance: **\$10,240.07**
 - **Senior Award Fund**
 - Opening Balance: **\$18,482.11**
 - Expenses: **\$1,083.30**
 - Closing Balance: **\$17,398.81**
 - **CD Account**
 - Opening Balance/Closing Balance: **\$9,093.93**
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Superintendent's Report

- Improved **parent communication procedures** for bus incidents; automated notifications will be used.
- Continued **snow removal efforts** across district properties and coordination with the town/county for sidewalks.
- Announcement of a new **Assistant Superintendent for Special Education**, starting in July, Mr. Sapienza.
- A consultant is reviewing special education programs, with a public presentation planned for spring.
- Reminder that future snow days will remain **traditional (non-virtual)** unless there is a long-term closure.
- Ongoing discussions about **reducing food waste** and improving food service practices.
 - Wisdom Lane Food Pantry
- Increased **supervision and training** at athletic events for safety.

Special Education PTA (SEPTA)

- Nominations opening soon for board positions.
- Scholarships available for seniors receiving special education services.
- Valentine's donut fundraiser underway.

Nominating Committee Update

Nominating committees should be meeting soon to establish slates for next year's executive boards.

- Please refer to PTA procedures for **timelines, presentation of slates, and voting requirements**.
- Anyone interested in serving on the **Council Executive Committee** must submit a **signed letter of intent**.
 - Letters may be emailed or delivered directly.
 - Letters will not be opened until the nominating meeting.
- Nomination information will be sent out shortly.

Scholarships & Awards

- **Special Education Senior Scholarships**
 - Awarded annually to graduating seniors receiving special education services
 - Updated applications will be posted on the website shortly
- **Senior Awards**
 - Discussion ongoing about expanding partnerships with larger companies this year
 - Local businesses and donated items are welcome
 - Any leftover items or fillers for baskets are appreciated—please let us know

Fundraisers & Events

- **Valentine Donut Fundraiser**
 - Open through **February 9**
 - Pickup on **February 13** at Memorial
 - \$15 per box (Dunkin' Donuts)
- **Donut Decorating Event**
 - Scheduled for **March 16**

Food Service Report

Food service is going well overall. New items have been well received, including:

- Pickles
- Macaroni salad
- Whole Milk

Transportation Update

- Last transportation meeting was held **January 13**
- Due to low ridership:
 - 10 of the 14 late buses were discontinued
 - **4 late buses remain in service**