

North Cross School
Parents' Association Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2016

Attendance: Laura Arnold, Sara Bartlett, Donna Batzel, Tonya Benson, Molly Burns, Kathy Callis, Susan Card, Elise DeMoss, Cheryl Glose, Pam Haskins, Janine Kess, Maggie Lenkowski, Ellen McGimsey, Linda Morgan, Marlo Pearson, Ashley Phelps, Gay Pollock, Karen Pruitt, Kristina Sommer, Tammy Snyder, Fiona Tower, Susie Wagoner, Susan Wenk and Sharon Williams.

Welcome: Susan Card called the meeting to order at 12:05.

President's Report- Susan Card- Big Flea is approaching on April 9, Elise DeMoss will discuss that. Symposium is coming up on February 26 which is for 8th-12th graders. They spend a day discussing careers, jobs and hobbies. Our role in that is to provide dessert. Anne Akers is catering it. We are going to pass around a sheet for people to sign up for baking. We will have Field Day this spring on May 6th. It will be an afternoon of games for the lower school and a pep rally. No booths or vendors. Susan hopes everyone gets a chance to see the fantastic North Cross Musical video. Very well received. Kids did a great job. It's 30 minutes long and is a preview of the Sadie Hawkins Dance which will be held on the 26th of February. It should be in Crossties this Friday. Middle School will see it tomorrow. Carmike Cinemas donated the popcorn. Next week, 2/17, there is a Pep Rally at 2PM in the CAC focusing on winter sports, swimming and basketball. Lower school, grades 3-5, now have both girls' and boys' basketball teams. They will be announced during the Pep Rally as well.

Treasurer's Report- Karen Pruitt- we wrote a \$50 check to Anne Akers as a thank you for all she does for us, as the PA committee discussed. \$90 came out for Boosters. Karen is going to follow up with Karen List about why this occurred. Our current balance is \$13, 334.67.

Ellis Hall- Fiona Tower- The lower school hosted an evening open house on Thursday, January 28. Current and prospective parents visited classrooms, spoke with teachers, and reviewed materials. The lower school students, ECP through fifth grade, are working toward the goal of 400 completed sheets in the SCA sponsored **Box Top** challenge. If the goal is met, students will enjoy a pajama day on Friday, February 26, to celebrate their efforts. The collection goes through February 19. The February "Tuesday with a Teacher" will be Tuesday, February 16, in Ellis room 14, at 1:30 PM. Emily Brown, Emily Votta, and Jennifer Luckay will be discussing how they balance academic, social, and emotional development in a fun and nurturing environment for children ages three through kindergarten. The PE department will lead **Jump Rope for Heart** activities for lower school students on Friday, February 19.

Eaton Hall- Susan Wenk- On February 1, we had a group of Korean students who visited campus. With the help of Sandy Patterson and 8th-grade student Sally Lee, we hosted a special

assembly for the Korean students from Wonju. Sally Lee offered the welcoming address in both Korean and English, and each of the students introduced himself/herself and talked about one thing that they enjoyed or had learned during their visit to the United States. Sandy Patterson is on the Board of the Sister Cities group, and she offered each student a gift from the Middle School at the end of the assembly. On February 4, five Chinese students between the ages of 11-13 visited Eaton Hall, and we assigned an ambassador to each student to offer them of the school and take them to different classes. The Chinese students were quite friendly and engaging, and it was a nice experience for both groups. The Eaton Hall SCA is selling Valentine's Day candy bags this week, and they will be distributed on Friday. The proceeds of this sale, along with the proceeds from our Jeans Day on Friday, February 12, will be given to the Roanoke chapter of the Children's Miracle Network. On Friday during Break, Lee Ann Linkenhoker from the Children's Miracle Network will be speaking during break about the mission of the organization. On Wednesday, February 24, we have organized a 6th-grade trip to the Taubman Museum to take advantage of the George Washington exhibit that is currently being shown. The students will attend an instructional program and view the Washington exhibit between 9:30-11:30 AM and then have lunch in the Market building before heading back to campus for the afternoon classes. Our 8th-grade students will be attending Symposium in the Upper School on Friday, February 26. This is always a wonderful event for the 8th-graders as they get to experience the range of Symposium speakers with the Upper School students for the first time. We have locked in Tuesday, April 5, for the final trout release at Roaring Run. On that day, I will take 8-10 students who have truly dedicated themselves to the Trout-in-the-Classroom program to Roaring Run to release the trout, and while there, we will tour the pre-Civil War iron furnace at Roaring Run Park and take part in other activities organized by Trout Unlimited. Thank you for all your wonderful work and your support!

Willis Hall- Donna Batzel- This morning Mr. Lamas held one of our several Global Studies seminars for interest Global Studies students. The focus was on POWs. This was in part to set up our Global Studies Speaker today, Mrs. Heath Lee, current NCS parent. Lee has written one book on the wives of POWs and is about to have a second book published. Following her presentation, Global Studies students will have the opportunity to have lunch with her. This continues our focus on the theme "Women" for Global Studies this year. The senior class pancake breakfast is tomorrow morning. This is a fundraiser for the senior class gift. Breakfast will be served from 7-8:15 in the dining hall. Full breakfast available - \$8 for adults, \$5 for students, \$20 per family. The upper school will be hosting a Sadie Hawkins dance on Friday February 26. This is sponsored by SCA with the support and guidance of Susan and Susan. The students made an engaging video-movie promoting this dance that was shown at assembly on Tuesday. The video earned gold stars and very favorable reviews from all. Symposium is all set for Friday Feb 26. A full slate of engaging speakers and presenters will take the place of the traditional school day for all students 8-12th grade. This is a day for students to hear presenters and participate in workshop type sessions with regards to careers, health and wellness, and hobbies and interests from a wide range of outside guest speakers. Inherit The Wind was a great success last month, as were the two trips to Model UN - one in Philadelphia, the other in Boston.

Ways and Means- Susie Wagoner- no report

Community- Kathy Kallis & Kristina Sommer- Anne Akers asked if we could get 3-4 people's assistance in getting food from the cafeteria to the CAC at around 11AM. The lunch is served early from 11:20-12:20. Maintenance will set up the tables. Per Mrs. Landry, we will need volunteers to come and help with clean up. Kathy is going to clarify with Anne if she wants things brought back over to her. Faculty and Staff appreciation lunch has been moved to March 1st. Kathy will send out an email next week asking lower school parents help with coverage during lunchtime. Middle school will do the donation of food this time, drinks and desserts. Cafeteria will cater the lunch. Field Day will be May 6th. She will set up a committee closer to the event. There will also be a school gathering that evening like last year.

Development- Pam Haskins- 1. Thank everyone who worked on the Gala committee, attended the event, or donated time, money or items to the event. It was a fun evening and the school grossed \$123,000 and will net close to \$90,000 which goes to the operating account and funds everything from salaries and benefits to programs and utilities. We raised \$11,295 in professional development funds for our teachers for graduate courses, training on new programs at school, and opportunities to advance as professionals. Our goal was \$15,000 so you will be seeing a request for additional funds. The next big event is Big Flea on April 9th. This will be the primary fundraiser for Parents Association this year, the proceeds are split 50/50 with the School. We will need our class representatives help in recruiting volunteers for this event. Elise DeMoss- reported for the Big Flea. She explained that if you wrote your name on that sheet to help with the Big Flea, she will be sending out an email to see which area you wish to help. There will be a meeting on Thursday, February 25th at 8:15 in the Development office. It will be about 30 minutes. We will plan how we are going to sort through all we have received. Elise also needs help with meet me Mondays, from 3-4. Molly Burns has been a huge help. Thank you to Virginia Varsity for allowing us the use of their truck.

Education- Linda Morgan read Angela's email- The next Willis Hall update is scheduled for February 16th at Noon in Fishburn Auditorium. The 8th grade representative may want to send out a reminder to that class as the parents may wish to attend.

Boosters- Tammy Snyder- A big thank you to the people who helped with the Gala cleanup. An email was sent out asking for assistance and the cleanup was done so quickly. The potluck for Spring Sports will be 2/22 at 6 PM in the dining hall. There has been an email sent out as a reminder for concussion testing. It needs to be completed every 2 years.

FOTA- Ellen McGimsey- Great news. We are awaiting for the delivery of the Yamaha U Series refurbished piano that Salem Printing donated the money for. It will be arriving any day. The teachers have also started spending some of the money raised at the FOTA Coffeehouse. Mr. Rudolph ordered some new drums for the Lower School and Mr. Miller is getting a Yamaha digital keyboard. We had been renting one as needed and now we are going to purchase one. Rehearsals have begun for the spring musical.

Old Business- Motion made and minutes from the January meeting were approved. The week before the Big Flea is when we really need a lot of help. It would be great if Elise could draft an email that will go out to all the classes. They might use sign up genius for volunteers. She will check with Jennifer Burtch.

2015-16 Admission Update given by Amy Jackson, Director of Admission

- Two new students starting in tenth grade (Singapore 3rd trimester and Australia next week)
- **Visit events week of February 8**
 - 10 families (representing 16 students); a couple will reschedule because of illness
 - Postcard with upcoming visit events
 - Thank you for helping to spread the word about our events! (We do ask people to register in advance.) Let us know if you know anyone who has interest in North Cross – we look forward to talking with them!
- **Tailored tuition webpage hits – traffic is up!**
 - Over last 30 days, the Affording page has:
 - 1,032 page views (includes repeat visitors)
 - 692 unique page views
 - Average time on the page – just over two minutes
 - 161 people have entered our site through the address “www.northcross.org/affording”
 - Rose to the 3rd most visited page after Home page, Teacher Websites, -- above basketball and school calendar! (previous 30 days was around 5th)
- **2016-17 Reenrollment**
 - Another record reenrollment within the window – THANK YOU! This helps tremendously as we start the planning for your children’s next school year!
 - Drawing today for one student’s tuition at last year’s rate

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
In raffle	~93 with deposits	142	148
Faculty/staff/board		26	42
Pending		60	53
TOTAL		228 (142+86)	243 (148+95) overall +15

- It’s not too late to reenroll! We will follow up with families to help with any remaining reenrollment questions.
- Drawing done by Amy Jackson for a family that has already re-enrolled and will be billed last year’s tuition rate. The winner was Attilio Ciccozzi.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:50.