

## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **RMS PTO MEETING**

**February 5, 2016, RF Library Meeting Room**  
**Meeting Called To Order by: Stephanie Schrodt Time: 9:21 am**

Present: Sarah Lempia, Stephanie Schrodt, Stephanie Wernet, Allison Parrell, Marisa Green, Ed Condon, Larry Garstki, Stacey Williams, Agnes Goldstein

#### **Executive and Administrative Reports**

##### **Presidents' Report**

**Sarah Lempia and Stephanie Schrodt**

- The January 8, 2016 minutes were approved.
- Sarah modeled a sample lab coat and safety goggles that were ordered by an 8th grade science teacher with PTO grand funds. Eighth graders use these during their experiments.
- There will be a PTO coffee for 4th grade parents on February 23, 8:30 am - 10:00 am at the River Forest Library. Parents will be told about PTO opportunities.
- We are short on Fun Lunch volunteers. Ideas to get parents to volunteer include a raffle for a gift certificate. We have asked PIMA if they are interested in providing a PTO chair for next year's Fun Lunch committee, as we share proceeds with them.
- Stephanie Wernet will replace Sarah Lempia as co-president next school year. We are now looking for a new treasurer (we are looking to diversify the PTO Board).

##### **Treasurer's Report**

**Stephanie Wernet**

- Stephanie reviewed the report for January. PTO Grants are on the P&L statement now. We continue to receive Fun Lunch orders. Eight grade Lock-in is now added under student enrichment.

## **Superintendent's Report**

**Ed Condon**

- District office is scheduling for next year. Kindergarten registration has begun. Summer school will be at Lincoln this year, plus there will be classes at Willard. RMS will be closed this summer due to the exterior project.
- Ed spoke about the roles of the Equity Committee, which is an offshoot of the Board of Education, and the Inclusiveness Advisory Board, which is more administrative.
- Thanks to the RMS PTO for supporting the Young Authors Conference. Thanks to Tina at RMS for arranging for RMS kids to take the ACT test. Most high school kids in River Forest take both ACT and SAT. The state uses standardized bench scores and this year SAT won the bid over the ACT, making SAT the state-sponsored test at the high schools, beginning this spring.
- The WSCA is sponsoring an art show at Cheney Mansion. It will be held the last Saturday in April and will be open to the public.
- Strategic Planning is moving forward. The planning committee will meet on Thursdays.
- Ed and Larry spoke about [turnitin.com](http://turnitin.com), an iPad app that was used by 6th and 8th graders for writing development. It was de-activated after privacy issues were raised by some parents. Letters were sent home to the parents of those students who used the app, and Larry is waiting for updated consent forms to be signed by parents before the app's re-activation.

## **Principal's Report**

**Larry Garstki**

- Carrie Goldman was here last week; she spoke to each grade, 2 periods for each grade. She presented interpersonal strategies and coping strategies for social conflict and bullying. She also did a 1 hour parent presentation, followed by 1 hour of questions and answers, the following evening.
- NAMI (National Association on Mental Illness) will speak to 7th & 8th graders in their classrooms. ADD and medications will be included in the discussions.
- 8th grade Lock-in is February 26; it will end at 2:00 am.

- RMS is working on its schedule for next year. Three of the four grades are at overflow; these grades need additional teachers. Seventh grade has 191 students; this year we had 7 or 8 transfers into 7th grade. RMS has no retiring teachers this year.

### **Board Liaisons' Report**

**Marisa Green**

See "Superintendent's Report" above

### **Administrative Reports**

#### **Grade Coordinator Updates:**

- 5th grade: Book drive will go on February 8-12.
- 6th grade: None.
- 7th grade: None
- 8th grade: 7th grade parents will be tapped for help with 8th grade graduation and dance. Dance will be at high school. Eighth grade needs 2 parents to coordinate the 8th Grade Class Memories; they need photos from dances, field trips, etc.

#### **Hospitality Committee:**

**Agnes Goldstein**

- Hospitality is providing dinner for teachers on March 3 during parent-teacher conferences.

#### **IMPACT:**

**Stacey Williams**

- On April 21 there will be an IMPACT meeting for the 8th graders re transitioning to high school.
- 6th and 8th graders IYS (IL Youth Survey) will be administered this year.

#### **King Cakes:**

- King Cakes are on sale on RevTrak.

Meeting adjourned 10:27 am  
Allison Parrell, PTO Secretary