

MEETING MINUTES

RMS PTO MEETING

October 2, 2015, RF Library Meeting Room

Meeting Called To Order by: Stephanie Schrodtt Time: 9:20 am

Present: Sarah Lempia, Stephanie Schrodtt, Stephanie Wernet, Allison Parrell, Larry Garstki, Danielle Locke, Julie Moller, Marisa Green, Maria Preuhs, Tania Wilson, Misty Olson, Stacey Williams

Executive and Administrative Reports

Presidents' Report

Sarah Lempia and Stephanie Schrodtt

- The September 4, 2015 minutes were approved.
- Sarah spoke about PTO grants. The PTO has been banking money for the past four years in the hopes of making a contribution to the exterior project. Since the exterior project has not happened, the PTO has created PTO grants for the faculty, staff and even students, though only teachers and staff can apply for the grants. The purpose is to promote new ideas.
- Larry says teachers will fill out a detailed proposal including cost. Teachers are excited about these grants since the regular budget is limited.
- The eighth grade teaching team has requested a grant for Fit Bits for all the students. The eighth graders will collect the data and report on it.
- There is no cap on what amount can be requested.
- If the exterior project does move forward we should still have enough money to contribute to that.

Treasurer's Report

Stephanie Wernet

- Stephanie discussed Profit & Loss.
- Stephanie is still getting in receipts for reimbursement.

- There is a reimbursement form on the PTO website. The form needs to be printed, filled out, and returned to Stephanie.

Superintendent's Report

Ed Condon

- Ed Condon was not present.

Principal's Report

Larry Garstki

- Larry reported on parking changes on Oak Street, west of Lathrop and east of Jackson, north side of street, there is no parking during school hours. Not many teachers are parking in the north lot, worrying they can't get out quickly since the chain is there.
- There is a student leadership club being put together called SAY (Success of All Youth), which will be made up of 6th-12th graders. It is for community involvement. Teachers will nominate kids for this board, and there is an application process. Meetings will be held at OPRF.
- Parents and teachers are eagerly awaiting results of PARCC tests.
- Only 13 of the 30 states who have common core are administering PARCC; others are administering another test or no test at all.

Board Liaisons' Report

Marisa Green

- Continuing the PARCC discussion, Marisa reported that not one student exceeded expectations in math on high school PARCC test.
- Dominican is offering a "Technology in the Classroom" class, and fifteen d90 teachers are participating. Larry said the school is considering using Edmodo school-wide.
- District is running above budget; only 10% of districts in the state are above budget.
- There are proposals for developing the property on Park and Lake, including possibly building a high-rise with condos. The district is keeping an eye on traffic and safety there.
- The Inclusiveness Board has established a leadership team focusing on gaps in academic achievement.

- There was a policy discussion re: what extra-curricular services should the district provide for Home School students. Services would include band and orchestra and STEM.

Administrative Reports

Grade Coordinator Updates:

- 5th grade (coordinators not present): Adventure Ed and Parent Social both went well.
- 6th grade (Misty Olson): Parent Social was great. Coordinators have all the volunteers that they need. Discussions on getting sewing machines for medieval costumes.
- 7th grade (coordinators not present): No report.
- 8th grade (coordinators not present): There is an 8th grade parent meeting Tuesday, October 6, at 7pm, regarding the transition to high school. Hunger Banquet is next week.

Spelling Bee

Danielle Locke

- Spelling Bee was last night and went very well. Eighty-four kids signed up and fifty-five participated. There are now nine finalists with all four grades represented. The next round will be October 14; there will be one final winner that night.
- All participants received a certificate and a ribbon.

Green4Good

Julie Moller

- The garden has been planted and vegetables are sprouting in the four planters on Oak Street. There is also have a pollinator garden by the office parking lot for the Monarch butterfly project from the University of Minnesota. The planters have cold weather vegetables, mum and bulbs for spring.
- There is a "keep on the lawn" sign, meaning there are no chemicals on the lawn, keeping with the district's sustainability project.
- There is a Green4Good person during all Fun Lunches to assist in sorting the waste.

- Julie recommends at all the PTO events there should be one assigned person to direct people to sort their trash into one of three bins (the signs are on the bins). They should get rid of other trash cans in the area during that event so there is no confusion as to where the trash goes.
- Julie also reported that this year's theme in Robotics Club is trash recycling.

Fall Fun Fest

Tania Wilson

- So far there have been only a dozen orders on Revtrak for Fun Fest tickets. Tania noted that it is easier to order tickets online rather than wait in line for tickets on the day of the event.
- They've received donations for Wendy's, SkyZone, and possibly Skechers for coupons for free stuff for those who pre-order.
- There will be a contest for best Fall Fun Fest pictures. There will be two winners: one for creativity, winner decided by Fall Fun Fest team, and one for most likes on Instagram.
- Not many parents have volunteered on Sign-Up Genius; we need more volunteers. Also need volunteer bakers for the Cake Walk.
- If a parent volunteers for a slot, that parent and his/her child can have a fast pass for one of the Fun Fest activities (except silly string).
- The raffle is scaled back, there will be twenty-five instead of thirty prizes. The number one prize is the Stephanie's candybar cake.
- There will be Henna tattoos for the kids, with parent permission. Those with Henna tattoos will not be allowed in the bouncy house or silly string room.

Meeting Adjourned 10:25 am

Minutes Compiled By: Allison Parrell, PTO Secretary