

# MEETING MINUTES

## RMS PTO MEETING

**September 4, 2015, RF Library Meeting Room**

**Meeting Called To Order by: Sarah Lempia Time: 9:18 am**

Present: Sarah Lempia, Stephanie Schrodt, Stephanie Wernet, Allison Parrell, Sally Gibbs, Larry Garstki, Julia Potter, Trina Bockus, Sarah Hampson, Laura Huseby, Ed Condon, Vickie Freund, Kristin Culliton, Mary Vanker, Tania Wilson, Marisa Green, Agnes Goldstein, Maria Preus, Katie Osga, Julie Moller, Danielle Locke, Gina Hardy

### Executive and Administrative Reports

#### **President's Report**

**Sarah Lempia and Stephanie Schrodt**

- The May 8, 2015 minutes were approved.
- Introductions: Everyone introduced themselves and stated the committees they served.
- The Google Drive password has changed. Google Drive is used to upload documents from many committees like Fun Lunch, some sub-committees, etc.
- PTO members are encouraged to reach out to other parents they don't know, especially the men who come to PTO events, like the PTO coffee, so everyone knows they can be part of the volunteering experience at RMS.
- Keep it Simple: keep things simple, things work better when kept simple.
- Budget: Sarah handed out an overview of the Budget. It is a work in progress; if anyone is planning to spend more, please ask.

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

**Stephanie Wernet**

- Stephanie discussed Profit & Loss. There are some crossover items from last year.
- PTO website has a form for reimbursements. Please print it out then give it to Stephanie when a reimbursement is needed.

- If an event needs cash at the event, email a request to Stephanie a week ahead of event.
- We are applying for sales tax exemption. If we are accepted, we will get a letter of approval which can be presented for in-store purchase of supplies.
- If there is a large event, it is better to have one person in charge of giving Stephanie receipts.

### **Superintendent's Report**

**Ed Condon**

- Ed welcomed everyone back.
- Ed passed to everyone a 1-page handout entitled, "Focus 2016", a continuation of the high-level goals set for the students, staff and district. There are four goals listed for this school year. The strategies listed under each goal are not necessarily part of the Strategic Plan.

### **Principal's Report**

**Larry Garstki**

- Larry emphasized that teachers' first priority is teaching; the goals Ed spoke of are incorporated by the teachers but are secondary to teaching.
- Larry spoke about the new teachers. Everyone is very happy with the new teachers.
- The new year has started out well. The heat has been an issue but the school uses large blowers to help with the temperature. Kids are being rotated thru a/c areas to help keep them cool.
- Fire drills will be occurring soon.
- MAP Testing will take place next week.
- PARCC tests will only have one component this year, not two.
- The various sciences are now a spiral curriculum, being rotated thru each school year, not just one science for each year.
- Parking has been much safer this year. Visitor parking (9 slots) is 1 hour. If visiting for longer, parking is available on Lathrop and 700 block of Jackson.

## **Board Liaisons' Report**

**Sally Gibbs and Marisa Green**

- At the Board meeting, they talked about enrollment, which is stable. The Lincoln project was also discussed.
- There was a personnel report and a facilities report.
- They talked about the street construction around Willard.

## **School Nurse**

**Gina Hardy**

- Gina spoke about allergies. Gina has a list of allergies for each student. She can give these lists to anyone for events where kids of different grades are attending, such as Fall Fun Fest and dances.
- Classrooms are generally food-free. Grade Coordinators should let room parents know who has allergies in the classrooms. Gina can email those lists to the coordinators.
- Ed acknowledged that many kids are self-advocates, and they are preparing for a time when their eating is not monitored.

## **Administrative Reports**

### **Grade Coordinator Updates:**

- 5th Grade (Sarah Hampson/Laura Huseby): Adventure Ed is September 9. T-shirts are coming in. Waivers are online now. Parents have volunteered for the event. Parent pick-up is on Circle Drive at 8:30 pm. Circle Drive is very dark, would the police be open to helping with parking and traffic flow on Oak Street?
- 5th grade parent social is at Old School Tavern on September 24 at 7 pm. Sarah asked that an invitation be extended to the teachers to attend as well.
- 5th Grade room parents: only 1 class doesn't have a room parent. Sally suggested sending a class-wide email to parents to be room parent.
- 6th Grade (Katie Osga): 6th Grade parent social is at Old School Tavern on September 17 at 7 pm. Pre-registration to attend is in Bulldog Bulletin.

- 6th Grade room parents: 6th grade has about 3/4 of the parents they need for room parents. Katie will send out an email to parents and ask for room parents in the Bulletin.
- 6th Grade has two service projects. One is at the Animal Care League; this will be in February or April depending on testing dates. They have all the parent volunteers they need for this event. The second is the IDU; this will be in the fourth quarter of the school year. They have most of the parent volunteers they need for this project. The 6th grade volunteers have had their meeting to discuss IDU, including the medieval clothing they will need.
- 7th Grade (Vickie Freund): Vicki stated there will be a 7th grade social in October, the venue and exact date have not been determined yet.
- Vickie reported that for science (Green4Good) volunteers are needed for the garden.
- Vickie also talked about Pack the Gym (a spirit event), which is coming soon to support RMS teams.
- 8th Grade (Mary Vanker presented): Mary stated that October 8 is Hunger Banquet. Mary, Jane Moore, and Sabine Oberberger, along with Mrs. Epstein and Mr. Roman, are working to facilitate this event. John Williams will MC the event. They need 12-16 parent volunteers. The 8th graders will volunteer at Feed My Starving Children a few weeks after the banquet. Both of these are part of the larger Hunger Awareness Month.
- 8th Grade Coordinators are looking for volunteers to take pictures at the many events thru the year. A CD is created at the end of the year.
- 8th Grade parent night is October 6; it is a meeting for 8th grade parents for transition to high school.

### **Pre-Pack School Supplies/School Store**

**Trina Bockus and Julia Potter**

- Trina reported that pickup day of school supplies went smoothly. There were 264 boxes sold on the website in the spring and 60 more over the summer.
- The school supplies contract with SchoolKidz has been signed for next year.
- Chairpeople for next year are needed; documentation for this will be on Google Drive.

- Trina reported many supplies were not picked up; how do we communicate for parents to pick them up? Forty were left after pickup day; kids picked them up at the office. Having a second day of pickup would be difficult to staff.
- Mary stated that at the end of the 2014-2015 year Green4Good collected unused school supplies and donated them to Central Rock Public School. Teachers and students noticed all the pages of paper that were collected from kids' notebooks. Eighth graders donated the most supplies.
- Julia reported that School Store went smoothly. RMS students were used at the school store and that was successful, they helped as classroom "experts" and at the cash register. Could we get other kids to help next year?
- There was confusion re: gym uniforms, which cannot be bought at school store. Gym uniforms are provided by a vendor for the school. It was suggested that perhaps next year they can be ordered online or the vendor info can be provided on Revtrak. Maybe this needed to be communicated better, that gym uniforms are not included at school store.
- Sarah stated there will be an option to buy spiritwear throughout the year. Julia stated there be spiritwear for the teachers.
- Sales of Class of 2016 8th grade t-shirts is going well.

## **Hospitality**

**Agnes Goldstein**

- Food for open house is on Sign-Up Genius. Needed: baked goods or fruits and veggies, all nut-free. Ten student ambassador volunteers are needed; it was suggested that Mr. Geweke be emailed for these volunteers.

## **Spelling Bee**

**Danielle Locke**

- RMS Spelling Bee has officially signed up with SCRIPTS. There are study guides provided by SCRIPTS but they are just guides. Words cannot be duplicated during the Bee.
- There are 2 dates for the Bee on the calendar: the first date is October 1, and the 1st round for 5th and 6th grade will be that day. Whoever is left after one hour of spelling will participate on October 14. The same goes for 7th and 8th grade, they will spell for

one hour on October 1, and whoever is left will participate on October 14. At the end of October 14 there will be 1 winner.

- Spelling Bee Committee will start promoting the Bee in 2 weeks thru the bulletin and teachers.
- Volunteers that are needed include 2 moderators and 6 judges. This may be a good volunteers activity for dads.

## **IMPACT**

- Coordinators could not attend meeting.
- Sarah said IMPACT's primary mission to discourage alcohol and drug use among teens. Sarah listed some upcoming dates:
- November 10 is a Fall Forum, and is possibly a panel event.
- January 21: there will be a guest speaker.
- April 21: for 8th grade parents, a talk for going to high school.

## **Green4Good**

**Mary Vanker and Julie Moller**

- The first project, 3 yrs in making, is the RMS science garden. There are raised beds on Circle Drive, Lathrop and Oak. They will be used in the school science program.
- They will expand the garden on Lathrop. It is a Monarch way station; it can be on a registry and the science students can study it and log in the data to be used on a national database. Plant material has to be from this area. Mary needs PTO funds for the plant material that will be ordered September 21; it is a one-time cost.
- Julie reported on continuing recycling and composting in the lunchroom, and especially at Fun Lunch and at PTO events like Fall Fun Fest.
- The composting program was so successful that Roy Strom expanded it to the whole town.

## **Fall Fun Fest**

**Tania Wilson**

- Fall Fun Fest (aka your old fashion School Fair) will be October 16, 6-9 pm. They will have 75% of RMS first floor, the parking lot activities and there will be a parent lounge on the 2nd floor.
- Tania wants to reach out to new parents in the district to get them involved.
- This year Juice Joint will have a smoothie zone on 1st floor. There will also be a spa. Fannie May/Cheryl's Cookies and Chipotle will donate food. OPRF Tau Gamma (service club) will also come.
- Volunteers are needed for the various Fun Fest activities ; Revtrak will be open soon for volunteering. Teachers are needed for supervising.
- Someone needs to take over chairing the Fall Fun Fest Committee for 2017

**Meeting Adjourned: 11:00 a.m.**

Minutes Compiled By: Allison Parrell, PTO Secretary