MEETING MINUTES

RMS PTO MEETING

September 7, 2018, Roosevelt Middle School Teachers' Lounge
Meeting Called To Order by: Sarah Hampson. Time: 8:40 am

Present: Sarah Hampson, Ann Harmon, Allison Parrell, Larry Garstki, Karen Simon, Amy Kurtz, Dr. Alison Hawley, Katie Avalos, Laura Maychruk, Nancy Snyder, Misty Olson, Deb Wolkstein, Ellen Chamberlain, Dionna Plywacz, Tammy Travis, Molly Quinn, Gina Hardy, Erika Bachner, Anne Maria Evans, Amy Dwyer, Erin Llanes, Julianne Nery, Andrea Davidson, Laurence Marquz

Executive and Administrative Report.

Presidents' Report **Sarah Hampson**
Ann Harmon

- Welcome and introductions of Board members.
- May minutes were approved.
- There is a new PTO website that is easier to navigate. John Beck has worked on it over the summer.
- The co-presidents are open to talking about new ideas at any time.
- February will be dedicated to having each grade do a service project.

Treasurer's Report **Karen Simon**

- Karen presented the Budget for 2018-19.
- The 8th grade activities are "pass-thrus", meaning the PTO doesn't try to make money on those activities, we usually break even.
- Many expenses, including those for Fall Fun Fest and Fun Lunch, are based on last year's numbers.
- We will maintain a smaller inventory of school supplies from now on.

- We are moving towards online sales of spiritwear so we do not have to keep an inventory.

- PTO covers the expense of Fun Lunch where kids cannot pay for that.

- PTO contributed to the re-model of the teachers' lounge.

- PTO contributes 25% of Fun Lunch proceeds to PIMA (PIMA started Fun Lunch).

- RMS PTO will coordinate with Lincoln and Willard PTOs to give gift cards to crossing guards during the holidays and end of the year.

- PTO Board approved the 2018-19 budget.

D90 Director of Curriculum **Dr. Alison Hawley**

- Dr. Hawley thanked the PTO members for all their hard work.

- Ongoing list of District 90 priorities include equity, filling opportunity gaps for all children, math adoptions, literacy and reading adoptions of new materials for K-8, partnering with National Equity Project, and universal design for learning.

- The district book, "The End of Average" has the goal of having the kids being "future ready".

- This is year two of the advisory program at RMS.

- Addition on Willard is complete.

- COW meeting on Tuesday spoke to safety and security in D90; this has been a big focus this past year.

- The district has put together a graphic, which will eventually be online, so that each part of the district goals are addressed and explained. The overall goal is to provide excellent education for all students.

Superintendent's report **Ed Condon**

No report.

Principal's Report **Larry Garstki**

- Opening day coffee was a success.

- We have three new staff members this year, one tech specialist and two math teachers.

- We have adopted a new math curriculum; it is in alignment with common core.

This year we are experimenting with exploring new schedules. The current schedule does not allow for enough time for math. Thinking of going toward a block schedule which would increase minutes in some classes and decrease minutes in other classes.

- Open house is on September 20, and it is a good time for parents to meet their kids' teachers.

- Advisory program is ongoing. "Snowflake days" are two or three half days where the kids spend the whole time doing advisory activities. The kids are practicing cooperation and togetherness. The school tries to have healthy snacks those days as a reward.

- September 28 has community service organizations coming to speak, and hopefully buddy groups can "adopt" certain organizations to help them.

- Standards-based grading may go into effect next year. The grades would include multiple standards, not just the typical ones. It is one of the best ways of reporting how your child is doing.

- Larry thanked the Board for the newly remodeled teachers' lounge.

Board Liaisons' Report **Katie Avalos**

- No report.

Nurse's Office **Gina Hardy**

- Gina addressed allergies and sugary snacks. There is a new allergy policy; they don't want food in the classrooms, except for PTO functions outside of school hours. Some kids have airborne allergies. There is a list of approved snacks and brands that are healthy and allergen-free. Gina also has a list of allergies by grade, for party-planning purposes. Parties can be geared toward making something for, say, Hephzibah, or another volunteer organization.

- There are epi-pens throughout the school in case of allergy emergencies.

<u>Administrative Reports</u>

Grade Coordinator Updates:

• 5th Grade: Adventure Ed was rainy but lots of fun. There is a tight turnaround with shirt orders; perhaps we can change the hand-out date next year.

• 6th grade: Need more Room Parents.

• 7th grade: Trying to get parents volunteers for end-of-year activities, for the dance, and for pack the gym.

• 8th grade: Getting organized for this year's activities.

Green4Good **Laura Maycruck**

- Laura has been doing this for eleven years in the district. There is a new core value in the district's strategic plan which says the district supports sustainable values. Laura recommended doing zero-waste events. Working with Fun Lunch and will work with any other PTO activity for reducing waste. There is a new Green Club for the kids.

Fun Lunch **Dionna Plywacz**

- Needs a list of of PIMA members and instrument parents.

- Need more volunteers for 7th/8th grade side.

- Changed pizza and pasta vendors.

Fall Fun Fest **Katie Avalos**
Andrea Davidson

- They are mostly the same activities as last year, with the exception of no more dance party. There will be cotton candy, and the nail and henna stations. There will be organic drinks donated. Looking for donations of gift cards and sports tickets for the auction. Looking for someone to oversee concessions and silly string. Liz Ziehl will be doing dinners again this year. We will need to purchase a margarita machine for

making the Slushees. We may not do the photo booth again. Fall Fun Fest is the 2nd biggest fundraiser after Fun Lunch.

- Fall Fun Fest, on October 12, needs volunteers.

7th/8th Grade Dance **Gina Hardy**
Nikki Elza
(as reported by Sarah Hampson)

- Looking for a DJ that will get the kids dancing. The dance lasts 1 1/2 hours.

School Store/Pre-Packaged Supplies **Amy Kurtz**
Bridget Thomason

- Pre-pack supply pick-up day went smoothly this year. Old supplies were sold cheap, given to teachers and donated.

SpiritWear **Deb Wolkstein**

- Sold the excess inventory at pre-pack supply pick up day. Deb will not be at events any more, it is all online now. Today is the last day of 15% off sale. Lots of different styles and logos, as well as varying price points. PTO gets 12% of every sale, and the money is paid to us quarterly.

- We are not carrying inventory anymore.

- Thinking of selling car magnets; it is a low price point and advertises school spirit. It was also suggested as a giveaway for paying PTO dues.

IMPACT/Parent Enrichment **Erika Bachner**

- Committee is working on a November Event with Lurie Children's Hospital that will discuss gender identity.

Meeting adjourned 10:02 am
Allison Parrell
RMS PTO Secretary