

Richmond PTA General Meeting

9/23/15

6:34 PM- Welcome

-approval of minutes from May 2015 minutes – Amy S-T moved to approve, seconded by Greg B
-approval of standing rules- see attachment for rules- Greg- motion to approve, seconded by Natasha. Approved by general membership with no “nos” recorded.

6:44- Budget presentation by Sara D.

balance going into the year was \$69k, projection of end-of-year budget \$44k. We are in the process of drawing down reserves. PTA wants to have a budget that reflects current year fund-raising so that money raised by current families benefits those families that raised the funds. The following budget items were reviewed:

- classroom support. Exceeds fundraising projections, so keeping \$275/\$500 specialist support draws down reserves, but is considered one of the most important things that PTA does.
- Cultural center. Room 17- center to be used for cultural events, cultural exchange homeroom, cultural knowledge for 5th grade trip
- PTA grants- passport club, partnered with administration. Playground Improvement Project.
- Social studies curriculum pilot- to enable teachers to utilize PTA-funded Chromebooks in a new way. PTA funding a 2-year pilot.

Questions regarding budget- none raised by membership

Natasha motioned to approve, Greg seconded. Approved by general membership, no “no’s” recorded.

6:53- Oya No Kai- president Danielle Maddera and vp Jeff Hopper in attendance to introduce Interns. Interns introduced themselves, mentioned their favorite foods!

7:03- update on Elms fundraising- Tess Sandgathe - in the past there has been a coffee bean fundraiser. Currently evaluating what can be done to save remaining elm trees- still figuring out what will be the best approach. Coffee sale to begin in October to pay for Elm tree management. Coffee can be ordered in advance. Online or paper forms will be available, coffee can be picked up at Richmond in mailroom. \$3000 for 3 years of inoculation. Coffee sale goal is open ended right now. Working with PPS to see what the district will be able to contribute.

7:08- Pamela Kislak, D-BRAC committee member. No specific information to share right now. District is trying to help “right size” schools. Citizen committee – 25 members. Public meetings are available on line. So far committee has established values of equity, access and availability of quality programming. Answering questions such as optimal number of “strands” in a k-5 (answer- 3 or 4 strands for a

k-5, 3 for a k-8) Looking at building sizes (number of classrooms vary widely). PPS is running computer models. Maps will be available sometime in October. Then public input process. DBRAC as “watchdog” to ensure district process is transparent. Feedback encouraged. Question about D-BRAC’s role: Pamela understands process to be – map rollout will occur at DBRAC meeting, will be involved in input. Superintendent will make recommendation to the school board. D-BRAC wants all stakeholders to feel heard. Question about sites for immersion programs- Some site decisions will be made to relocate other immersion programs. Richmond building= low priority “problem” at this time.

7:20- eco school network- Jeanne Roy. Parent group advocating for sustainable practices at schools. Examples: reducing waste in cafeteria, walk & bike to school, gardening, recycling initiatives. Halloween Costume exchange, water bottle fill stations. Free training available to help parents get started on projects. Sponsoring dessert meet-ups, any interested parents may attend who want to know more about the network. Sign-up sheet passed around for meet-up interest.

Introduction of board members

Advocacy update- Jason Lathrop. Pre-existing barriers to attendance, trying to increase access. Trying to get word out about our program. Table at APANO Jade night market. Working with John Isaac to find families who are making school choices- kindergarten roundup. We reached out to E&T to find out current numbers, if there was any change in SES numbers in the program. Preliminary numbers are that there is a slight increase in number of students who receive FRL in program.

Jasmin C-G- looking for classroom reps, particularly 1st, 4th, downstairs kindergarten. Communication liaison for classroom teachers and PTA to parents. Working on putting together emergency backpacks for classrooms.

Jay Jaacks- Communications. Getting information out through website, FB page, Interested in what communication works best- FB, paper, ?

Andrea Obana- Cultural Committee chair- Working to increase community between Japanese speakers and non-speaker with “shaberukai”- conversation groups starting Oct. 7. Thank you to Greg Byrd for working on rice paper shades!

Membership chairs- welcome, facilitating volunteers. Trying to beat goal of 150 members. Raffle on Harvest festival to encourage membership!

Emi A.- Rich Coffee- welcoming families to coffee, funds have been used for Chrome Books, etc.

Special Events- (Kate and Rebecca)- Harvest Festival approaching, featuring Taiko, costume parade. Seeking volunteers. Always.

Amy- Field project update. Has been working with Dave and other folks, trying to upgrade field, safety issues have been preventing PE classes from being held outside. Did not receive Nike 20k grant for gravel running path. Need to find \$15k to fund the path. Currently seeking alternative funding source.

SGT- Greg Byrd- takes care of gardens (front, nature path, vegetable gardens) Maintained entirely by parent volunteers. Also initiatives- trying to bring silver, reusable cups into cafeteria, composting. Lots of opportunities for volunteering. Needs volunteers for bugs and bones at cafeteria. Also looking for artists to assist with cultural committee art to help reflect Japanese Immersion Program in the school Art

Paul Anthony- school board member in attendance.

Steve Cooper- runs a SE girls basketball league. 260 girls playing on 25 teams. Moving to NE PDX as well. No tryouts, girls can play regardless of economic situation. Started 3 years ago with 2 teams.

Call for new leadership!

Adjourn 8pm

Submitted: _____ Date: _____

Accepted: _____ Date: _____

As written With Amendments