

Richmond PTA General Meeting MINUTES

February 21st, 2020

8:15 am

Attendance: see sign-in sheet

Greeting given by Co-Presidents Ben Carr and Angela Dorsey-Kockler

Treasurer's Report

Budget report

- See documentation submitted

Discussion:

Muddy Hill

Revising the current muddy hill on north playground with outdoor multi-use space providing play opportunities and outdoor classroom venue. Also mitigating run-off that currently impacts the playground.

- 3 bids to present to PTA - see documentation submitted.
- Fiddlehead is the preferred bid, recommended by the working group - somewhat less detailed bid, but we have worked with them before and there is a level of trust established.
- What is online is substantively up to date, but things change daily, so paper versions presented today are slightly more updated than what is online.
- Spring festival and spring Rich Coffee monies will fund this project, but those funds are not yet earned.
- Asking PTA to approve allocation of additional approx \$5k in order to show PPS that we have the full balance of funds ready to go.
- Additionally requesting a \$5k emergency fund for contingencies that may come up over the summer, during construction, at a time when PTA won't be meeting to approve additional funds. Unknown costs include additional drawings, fencing, and potential background checks for contractors (decision rests with SUN program, which will be using the property this summer for summer programming).

Vote on Revised Proposed 2019-2020 Budget

Motion: Katie Gallagher

Approve budget changes to include:

- Move forward with Fiddlehead bid pending contract negotiations with PPS
- Approval of up to \$5,000 from the PTA General Fund towards Muddy Hill if Rich Coffee and Super Green Team don't meet their fundraising projections before summer; this amount would be repaid to the PTA General Fund in 2021
- Approval of up to \$5,000 from PTA General Fund of contingency fund that could be spent on Muddy Hill, to be approved by one PTA president, one Muddy Hill Committee member and the PTA Treasurer; these funds would be repaid to PTA General Fund in 2021

Second: Robyn Draheim

Approved with no changes

Approval of Nov 2019 PTA General Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve: Katie Gallagher

Second: Becca Werlin

Approved with amendment

PTA Updates

2020 PTA Initiatives:

School of Excellence Program

- See documentation submitted
- Four sources of information that PTA is using to consider how PTA can support student success outside of the classroom

State Report card

- Shows Richmond scores dipping in Mathematics (6%) and ELA (7%); working on what PTA can do to support/bolster these scores

PPS Successful Schools Survey

- Encouraging parents to fill out for each child they have in PPS. Highlights/areas for improvement:
- Availability of childcare proves barrier to parent engagement
- Busy schedule proves barrier to parent engagement
- Motivating classroom lessons
- Helpful learning environment from administrators
- School activities match student interests
- Student comfort in asking for help from school adults

Richmond Site Council School Improvement Plan

- Also focusing on Mathematics and ELA

National PTA School of Excellence Survey

- See documentation submitted
- Based on data gathered, School of Excellence program has several tracks to follow. Richmond chose the “Improve Education” track, with the following upshot:
 - *Improve scores in math, science and literacy*
 - Highlights: Mathnasium, Science Fair as support for science and family engagement, Readathon supports teachers with materials (Japanese books)
 - *Enhance family engagement*
 - New dismissal procedure has diminished opportunities for family engagement in the school building
 - Brainstorm of ideas to “bring school to the families” to enrich their experience of their children’s education at Richmond

DISCUSSION:

Question re: how video/photo sharing approach will accommodate families who do not want their children's images shared in video/photo. That permission is requested at the beginning of the year; families are encouraged to check with Kirstin in the office if they would like to check on or change their status.

Will be deploying PTA School of Excellence survey again in April/May and submitting results to National PTA to see if we can get National PTA School of Excellence designation

Muddy Hill Transformation

- See discussion above

Wall Ball Murals

Holly Telerant, Al Baik, Jacqueline Suzuki are three parents working on a solution to prevent graffiti on wall balls on the playground.

- A tanuki design is being used as inspiration for artwork; they have submitted for approval from PPS and have already secured paint donations and volunteer artists.
- Students will vote on designs, through posters/sticker vote on the PTA Bulletin Board this spring.
- Goal is to have done this spring or over the summer. Research shows that graffiti is much less likely on surfaces with designs. Hope that these will be coated with a special coating that makes graffiti removal easier.

Public Comment

Question: is state report card based on standardized testing? Yes, it is based on the OR Summative Assessment.

Ron Young: Contextualizing the decrease in scores on state report card Majority of schools in the state experienced a dip on this test; questions arise about the test itself. Richmond is still well above the district and state averages, including monolingual schools.

Robyn Draheim: Site Council targeted historically underserved groups to support them in better meeting goals.

Meeting adjourned 9:04 am