

RPES PTA  
Meeting Minutes  
September 11, 2019

Sign In and Document Pickup

**6:03** Meeting Called to Order by Jill Manupella

Introduction of PTA Officers

- Jillian Manupella and Sarah Huls (Co Presidents)
- Jennifer Smith and Sharon Frazee (Co Vice Presidents)
- Elisa Ackerley and Terri Sanderson (Co Treasurers)
- Elaine Garrett (Secretary)

Treasurer's Report

Included in tonight's packet is the 2019-2020 Budget. Designated columns show the budget, projected expenses and profit, and actual expenses and profit per monthly events. Also included in the packet are the July and August bank statements. Grade Assembly/Picnic moneys included. Jill asked if anything else would be requested to include in the budget, and indicated some events, such as PARP and Literacy Night are now split out. More events will be added.

- Motion to Approve Treasurer's Report by Mr. Hamilton
- Seconded by Mr. Gregoire

Secretary's Report

Included in tonight's packets are the minutes of last year's final meeting in June 2019. All can review and comment. The usual sequence of topics will be presented in this format as indicated.

- Motion to approve June 2019 Meeting Minutes by Mr. Gregoire
- Seconded by Mr. White

Principal's Report

Principal Thomas Hopkins introduced himself as the new principal of RPES.

**Transportation:** Today (9/11) was the first of two bus drills. Gary Valenti is the new director of transportation. He has recruited new drivers and will hold Birnie to their commitment to train bus monitors and provide safety feedback.

**Emergency Drills:** Tomorrow (9/12) is the first fire drill. Eight must take place before December 1<sup>st</sup> (six fire and two lockdown drills). These will be scheduled.

**Services:** RPES now offers in house services for Occupational and Physical Therapies. 2 Therapists are on staff. Speech Language services are forthcoming in house and will be provided by Judy Higgins.

**Cafeteria:** A new positive reinforcement reward program will be rolled out where every other Friday selected achieving children will sit at a golden tablecloth and receive a snack and/or a non-food

item as a reward. Mr. Hopkins welcomes suggestions from staff and others for healthy or non-food rewards. Mr. White suggested healthy food snacks like Gogo Squeezes as an option.

**Assemblies:** First character assembly was yesterday (9/10). Throughout RPES the underlying theme will be “community”, tied to being mindful.

#### Teacher’s Reports

**3rd Grade:** Mr. White stated third grade is getting in the swing of things. It is still “the honeymoon phase” with quiet hallways. The Principal and Assistant Principal have presence all over the school to establish a good rapport. Topics covered have been library awareness, behavioral expectations, and peaceful transitions. Mr. Hamilton added that RPES is all new to the students and it’s important to make them comfortable in class and with the teachers before academics begin. To aid in this he has employed role playing and modeling to reinforce expected behaviors.

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Ms. France said the fourth grade is working on transitions and hallway and cafeteria protocol. The students have started personal narratives in ELA and are covering place value in math. In science, they are beginning to use the new experiments for the Next Generation Science Standards.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Mr. Gregoire said the fifth grade is working on establishing good communication in class, place value review, and gearing up for iReady diagnostics. There will be an intervention block built into class time for review of concepts to make sure content is mastered. In science the students are studying matter (liquid, gas, solid) and that writing and communication are an essential part of STEM as well. Teachers are mindful to ensure SPED students are being taught at their level and productivity. 5<sup>th</sup> graders are aware they will be afforded some special privileges based on their behaviors. There is the potential of an arts field trip (play) in November or December. Everyone is looking forward to a fun year.

Old Business —None.

Jill noted the 2019-20 National PTA by laws for the RPES chapter is signed and available for review.

- Motion to approve By Laws: Mr. Gregoire
- Seconded: Mr. Hopkins

#### New Business

- Signups for PTA memberships are available.
- School banking begins Friday 9/20 on the stage, and we anticipate about 8 participants or so. Capcom should have a booth at Open House, so perhaps we will send a flyer home to return to Open House. We could try a contest where the class with the most participation wins a prize.
- Fundraisers were sent out and are due back 9/27.
- Spirit wear order form is due back 9/13 for turnaround for 9/27 Spirit Day.
- Picture Day 10/1
- Pumpkin Fest/Mad Scientist 10/25
  - Suggestions for activities—mysterious spooky objects to touch (grapes, spaghetti) suggested by Terri and Elisa
  - Haunted House (5<sup>th</sup> graders will assist, Mr., Gregoire to oversee)
  - Cake walk
  - Games

- (Mrs France): Dance Crazy 10/18 and Jitterbug Tussle 1/30 from 6-8pm. Request for snacks and water to be funded by PTA—Mrs. France will send list to the PTA.
- (Mr. Hamilton): Just Run starts next week, with permission slips due Friday 9/13. Practices will be Tues (3<sup>rd</sup>), Thurs (4<sup>th</sup>), and Fri (5<sup>th</sup>).
- Volunteers will be needed for Picture Day, Book Fair and Pumpkin fest.

**6:25** Meeting Adjourned by Jillian Manupella