

RPES PTA
Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2020

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6:04 PM Meeting called to order by Jillian Manupella

Treasurer's Report—Jill Manupella for Elisa Ackerley

A review of last month's budget report showed a need for corrections. The Winter Dance had a \$54.35 profit. Spiritwear transactions should show \$322.25 for January and \$347.25 for February. The Membership line should be \$232 for January. It is presently at \$185 as we made a payment to the National PTA organization.

Motion to accept corrections by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Gregoire.

Secretary's Report—Elaine Garrett

Motion to approve January's meeting minutes by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Gregoire.

Principal's Report—Mr. Hopkins

The next Shared Decision Making Meeting is Monday, February 24th. 3 parents attended the last meeting. Sarah will share the upcoming meeting details on the RPES PTA Facebook page. Attendance is up 1.5 to 2.5% over previous years' winter months, but there needs to be a further school wide discussion regarding the attendance initiatives as to what would constitute participation. There is a big push in the district to identify goals; solving chronic absenteeism is a priority for Lansingburgh.

There were great turnouts for the last month's events: Jitterbug Tussle, Math Night and Minute to Win it. The trait for February's Character Assembly is Friendship. There's an uptick in cabin fever so trying to keep the peace and calm before departure for winter break. Teacher mentors have been approved for breakfast time, so that should help ease crowding in the mornings. NYS ELA testing is 3/25 and 3/26, and test prep will be pushed for the Intervention block time. There was a great response for World Reading Day with many guest speakers.

3rd Grade Report—Mr. Hamilton, Mr. White

The students are finishing the area unit in math, along with review of the distributive property and math facts in multiplication and division. The current science unit is using investigation to determine friction and forces. STEM Club round 3 begins after break. The math club is in its 9th week and meets Wednesdays after school.

The Reading/Writing Curriculum met to map out the curriculum for the 3rd and 4th units. There will be a Test Prep unit that will be beyond drills and skills that the ELA teams will

implement after break. Ms. Giaquinto and Ms. Desso have begun preparing, and Mr. White and Ms. Winterbourne will start. In Writing the students are working on persuasive writing.

4th Grade Report—Mr. Allen

The students are working on information strategies and will begin test prep with testing strategies and vocabulary building. In Writing they are finishing up the information articles that they will present at the end of March to the Turnpike students. After that, they will commence short and extended responses to texts. Current Math work is in fractions, and plants and animals in Science. In social Studies, they are finishing the Native American unit and will move onto Explorer's impact on NYS history.

5th Grade Report—Mr. Gregoire

In Math the students are working on adding and subtracting mixed numbers and fractions. ELA's focus is information texts, for which Mrs. Fasano's class is producing reports on Black History Month. They are tying in with Art class to make portraits of famous African Americans to pair with their research. Test prep will begin for the state ELA tests, so Science is switching to reading and understanding science articles to aid in that practice. Ms. Pasinella reports that Amelia Dyer's project selling koala bookmarks raised \$300 for Australian wildfire relief. Ms. Simson's class also raised \$450 for Drilling For Hope with the sale of Mind Jars. This year's PARP theme is Pirates.

Old Business—Jill Manupella

The final total for profit with the Guptill's event was \$800. The Boys' Bowling event was a success despite the weather. Those families who could not attend received passes for a future visit. The Sweetheart 'Under the Sea' Dance is this Friday with over 70 pairs registered. The RPES PTA also received an award from Lifetouch worth \$500.

New Business—Jill Manupella

Founders' Day is February 28th at Parti and it is \$35 a ticket. You can give your ticket form and payment to Sue Anthony or Jill. Sarah Huls, Mr. Gregoire, and the Bretons are all receiving awards, and we wish to show them all our thanks and support. The Mary Fund Benefit is also upcoming on 3/21 at Brown's Revolution Hall.

The Guinness World Record attempt will be May 1st and will show Teamwork with the world's largest recorder lesson. We will need 250 students to participate. More details to come as we plan.

This Tuesday we reached 100 PTA members and now stand at 101. We will always welcome more.

The PTA Auction is a joint effort between RPES and TES and will be Friday 3/13 at Turnpike. Each grade will make 3 baskets. Mr. Gregoire will forward the information to the 3rd and 4th grade reps to send to all the classes. The PTA asked the support staff to put together a lottery tickets/wine basket. We are hoping for a lot of family participation. The school with the most tickets sold will see their principals slimed.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:28pm by Jillian Manupella