

ROE PTO Board Meeting Minutes for October 14th, 2009

Meeting was brought to order at 6:02pm

2009-2010 Board Members Present

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| 1. Diane Cimino, President | 15. Ann Guerra, Ways and Means |
| 2. Debra Kenna, Past President | 16. Jennifer McCormick, School Life |
| 3. Frances Moore-Jones, Vice President | 18. Jodie Haney, ASP Rep |
| 4. Kristin Helfand, Secretary | |
| 5. Sandra Ahlhorn, Treasurer | |
| 6. Liz Palmer, Budget Finance | |
| 7. Teri Peterson, 5th Grade Rep | |
| 8. Wendy Sides, 5th Grade Rep | |
| 9. Alice Chen, 4th Grade Rep | |
| 10. Maryann Mueller, 3rd Grade Rep | |
| 11. Janann Pittman, 2nd Grade Rep | |
| 12. Nguyet Vo, 2nd Grade Rep | |
| 13. Meredith Maierson, 1st Grade Rep | |
| 14. Natalie Cordova, Kinder Rep | |

Others Present

- 19. Ms. Susan Shenker, Principal**
- 20. Ms. Michele Dahlquist, Admin. Coordinator**
- 21. Ms. Tomiko Wilkerson, Teacher**
- 22. Ms. Becky Smith, Teacher**

Minutes

TOPIC: Secretary's Report

SPONSOR: Kristin Helfand

- The minutes from the September board meeting were presented and requested to be approved. Kristin Helfand made the motion for approval and Diane Cimino seconded it. All were in favor.

TOPIC: President's Report

SPONSOR: Diane Cimino

- Diane introduced the kinder reps, Natalie Cordova and Elisa Donovan and noted that everyone should have received an updated Board Contact List with their contact information on it via email. This list also includes Sandra Ahlhorn's Treasurer email address. Those who did not receive a copy should contact Kristin Helfand.
- Diane announced that she has recently completed the distribution of the Room Parent Responsibilities document to all grade-level room parents. All teachers now have at least one room parent, with the exception of Ms. Bennett's 3rd Grade class.
- Thanks were given to 5th grade reps, Teri Peterson and Wendy Sides, for hosting the 5th grade Fun Day on 9/26 and to 2nd grade reps, Nguyet Vo and Janann Pittman, for hosting the 2nd grade play date on 9/12.
- Teacher Appreciation Week has been moved from May to February (2/8-2/12). Holly Shilstone will host and plans to use a Mardi Gras theme. Grade reps were instructed to

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communicate this change to room parents so they can coordinate their efforts to coincide with the school's festivities.

- A new Parent Wellness committee is being formed to research options for healthier foods in our school cafeteria. Any interested parents should contact Rene Flood.
- Diane read a note from a former ROE student, who expressed thanks for his wonderful elementary school experience and has donated a portion of his bar mitzvah money to the school library fund.
- Diane gave a brief update on the library fundraising effort. According to a letter to donors dated June 22, 2009, the committee has accumulated cash and pledges of \$653,000. Of that amount, \$109,000 was applicable to the 1 for 2 Challenge Grant, which adds another \$55,000. As of June 22nd, they had raised approximately \$708,000. The challenge grant has been extended to apply to all cash donations received through 12/31/2009.

TOPIC: Principal's Report

SPONSOR: Susan Shenker

- Ms. Shenker discussed the need for a new car rider pickup procedure for grades K-1. She distributed a map to illustrate the new procedure which will go into effect possibly in November. The map shows car pickup will happen in the bus lanes off of San Felipe and the buses will pickup from the circle drive.
- Ms. Shenker stressed that safety cannot be a slave to convenience and that we need to plan a more systematic approach to our pickup procedure. In accordance with this, Ms. Shenker noted that she would like more of a separation between cars, buses and walkers.
- HISD has done a traffic study and she is soliciting input from parents and staff.
- Morning drop off is currently not a problem due to staggered drop-off times and that will remain the same

TOPIC: Who's Who?

SPONSOR: Frances Moore-Jones

- Frances Moore-Jones passed out pages 5 and 6 of the Who's Who document which now includes the new kinder reps.

TOPIC: Auction Update

SPONSOR: Frances Moore-Jones

- The 2009 auction planning is going well. The auction is a zero-based cost event due to underwriting, so all of the money made the night of the auction will go straight to the PTO.
- Raise the Paddle will happen during the live auction this year and will raise money for the Nature Center.

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TOPIC: Fun Run Recap

SPONSOR: Natalie Cordova

- The fun run was a huge success, with over 500 people attending.
- The event made a profit of \$2,100. Sponsors brought in \$2,600 and registration and t-shirt sales added another \$4,900 to offset the expenses of \$5,400.
- Natalie plans to develop a plan for future Fun Run events to make even more profit, including more sponsorship money. She would like someone to help her with this.

TOPIC: After School Program

SPONSOR: Jodie Haney

- Sylvia Ponce de Leon wants to start new enrichment classes (i.e. creative writing) and would like input from parents. Please let Sylvia know if you have ideas.
- A parent group is forming to evaluate providers in order to document their performance. This documentation is important given the negative response to the elimination of a provider last year.

A motion was passed to adjourn the meeting by Debra Kenna. The motion was seconded by Diane Cimino. All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.