

Rohrerstown Elementary PTO

Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 4, 2017

I. Welcome and Greeting:

Dawn Ruppert welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

II. President's Report:

Dawn began by thanking Heather Conlon-Keller for having the book cart at our Book Fair. Heather said the cart book sales went very well again this year, raising over \$100.

Discussion followed about logistics having the cart out at different times during the school day. Concerns over storage in the halls and transportation of the cart were made.

Dawn announced that January 27th is RES Family Skate Night at Castle Roller Rink from 5:30-7:30 pm. Entry is free. Those attending will only pay for skate rentals.

The Shoe Drive fundraiser will begin in 2018. Boxes will be made available with signage for those who would like to place them in locations around the community (bank, church, etc.). The PTO's goal is to fill 100 bags with 25 pairs of shoes in each. The storage unit that has been donated is located by Leisure Lanes.

March 16th is game night and Dawn will be chairing the event. More information to come.

Dawn continued by saying that June 2nd is Hempfield Spirit Night at Clipper Magazine Stadium with the Barnstormers. Students will get into the stadium for free, and adults at a discounted rate. Stay tuned for more information.

III. Secretary's Report:

Heather Rotella asked that all in attendance sign in.

IV. Treasurer's Report:

Sunil Mathew reported on the 2017-2018 budget. So far, our fundraising efforts have brought in \$2200 from the Book Fair, \$2682 from the RES Run, and \$1285 with the Pie Sale, totaling \$3800 so far this year. This puts us financially at about where we were last year.

V. Book Fair:

Sunil Mathew reported that the Scholastic Book Fair raised \$2200 this year. Slightly less than last year as a result of giving a lot of items away this year at the Fair and at family night.

VI. VIP Dance:

Katie Zellers shared that the VIP (Very Important Person) dance is scheduled for February 23rd and will take place in the RES cafeteria (and gym if needed). The price will be \$5/couple. Sunil will be DJing the event.

VII. Principal's Report:

Dr. Swantner began a discussion about the verbiage and requirements found in the PTO bylaws for an "Active PTO Member". She expressed that recent circumstances have warranted a change to the bylaws. Those who are actively engaged should be required to complete three volunteer items/events. Whether it's volunteering in the school, donating something, etc. Any way someone can give back to the school in different ways that suit their needs, on their schedule. She went on to say that Article IV lumps membership and leadership. The group feels these should be two separate items. After some discussion, Kathy agreed to send out suggested verbiage for edit/review.

Kathy suggested we send out a Thank You to all who have volunteered for the PTO so far this year. Perhaps a half sheet of paper sent home, or via a Facebook post.

The Night of the Arts and Spelling Bee are coming up, and an all school sing along will take place on the last day of school before holiday break. Holiday parties are scheduled for Thursday, December 21st as follows: 1st - 1:45 pm, 2nd and 3rd - 2:30 pm, 4th - 2:15, 5th - 12:30 pm (luncheon with celebration), 6th - 2 pm.

VIII. Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council (SPAC):

Dawn Ruppert reported that Kindergarten Badging (vs. assessing via traditional report card) is not going to be happening at RES next school year. This was a pilot year for badging at RES.

Dawn also shared that as a part of social-emotional learning, there is now a counseling area on the RES website showing what services are provided at the school. Students also now have an app on their iPads to request a meeting with Carrie Wilson (school counselor).

Cell Tower update - There will be no appreciable effect on property values, nor will the district's liability insurance coverage or cost be impacted with the installation of the tower on school property.

Dawn also reported that a doctoral student will be doing research for the district that all are invited to participate in. The research will be on the perceptions of staff and parents related to career readiness.

IX. Ways & Means:

Heather Petrasek shared that coke rewards can now be input via a smart phone, making it much easier to track. Heather also suggested that we display a visual with our goal for BoxTops collections.

The Texas Roadhouse fundraiser night netted \$85. Heather P is going to be stepping down at this time, and Nicole Topaltzas is going to be taking over Restaurant Nights. Nicole hopes to have two scheduled events each month for the rest of the school year.

X. Q.U.I.C.K (Questions, Information, Comments, and Knowledge):

Heather Conlon-Keller passed around a picture of a painted buddy bench found at another school in the district. She would like to see our buddy bench painted so that students know

what it is for. She also proposed purchasing Trek/recycled rubber picnic tables and chairs for the grounds at RES. There was concern as to whether the tables and benches could be mowed and plowed around. Heather will check with Mr. Robey, Director of Maintenance. Discussion followed regarding promote this as the PTO fundraising initiative. Sunil will check pricing at Stauffer's. Will they give us a discount or possibly donate them?

A suggestion was made that moving forward, all homeroom parents and the homeroom parent coordinator should be required to attend the PTO meetings.

The BoxTop basket raffle drawing winner was Mr. Gallagher.

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Attendees: Dawn Ruppert, Heather Rotella, Heather Petrusek, Heather Conlon-Keller, Mr. Gallagher, Katie Zellers, Sunil Mathew, Sandi Provost, Kathy Swantner, Cindy Brodbeck