

Rohrerstown Elementary School PTO Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 11, 2024

6:30pm (RES Library)

Welcome & Greeting:

Allison Bacharach welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. A few thank you cards from the teachers were passed around to the group.

Attendance:

Principal, Kathy Swantner & Teacher Representative, Amy Skundrich

Allison Bacharach, Jennifer Yurchak, Laura Bender, Kelly Miller, Aileen Khuu, Gail Singleton, Julie Will, Nicole Skee, Dina Kovoros

President's Report:

Teacher Conferences Dinner - PTO provided dinner to the teachers one evening during conferences. A delicious assortment of items from Mission BBQ and beautiful flowers and decorations were set up by a few parent volunteers. We got some great feedback on this and were told there was plenty for leftovers the next day!

Parent-Organized Breakfast - Kim Wallover organized a special breakfast for the teachers to show how much they are appreciated and it was a big hit! All items were donated by families and a few parents volunteered to set up the breakfast spread. Allison suggested for something similar to be done quarterly. We'll be sending out a signup for organizers to manage the donations and coordinate the setup. It was noted that setup should begin no later than 8am.

Family Fun Night - PTO received a lot of great feedback from this event. Many families liked the performer and there were certainly a lot of laughs heard throughout the evening. The Book Fair was busy with families too! Ridiculous Nicholas mentioned that he also does science presentations. Because of a limitation on time this year, PTO purchased food for the concession stand. Next year, a signup will be created for donations of some of the concession items. There were also some suggestions offered as an alternative to a hired performer for future events like this. A Talent/Variety Show was briefly discussed with a plan to discuss in more detail at a later time.

Book Fair Payout Options: There are 2 options offered by Scholastic, cash (25%) or Scholastic dollars (50%) to be used to buy things like books, bean bag chairs, digital subscriptions, etc. from the online catalog. In recent years, PTO has opted for the cash option. Allison would like to discuss this further when we have actual numbers from the Book Fair to decide which option is best for this year.

Insurance - Allison confirmed that the insurance policy has been renewed and the district has a copy of the Certificate of Insurance. The current cost is \$255 with the need for special event riders. The Broker has reached out to Surplus Lines to see if any carrier would be able to write an annual policy that would include all of the events/activities for the PTO.

FMX - This is an approval system used throughout the district to reserve spaces for events. At this time, Allison is unable to access the system and has been working with the district to remedy that. Dr. Swantner will look into this as well.

Secretary's Report:

Kelly reported that the minutes from the 9/23/24 meeting were approved and published on the PTO page of the RES website. Minutes were also posted to the RESPTO Facebook Page.

Treasurer's Report:

Scholastic Book Fair - We are still waiting for final numbers from Scholastic, but it's looking like the gross sales were slightly over \$10,000. It takes a while for the final numbers to come in and we will report on that when it's available. Concessions sold during Family Fun Night netted \$426, which was helpful in offsetting the \$700 cost of the performer. The detailed report can be viewed [HERE](#).

Oregon Dairy Pie Sale - There were 376 pies sold with a net profit of \$1668, which is slightly higher than last year!

Sales Tax Exemption - Laura recently applied for a blanket sales tax exemption that was approved. She is getting details on exactly how it works and will follow up with the PTO officers so we can hopefully save a little money on purchases that need to be made.

Principal's Report:

Dr. Swantner expressed thanks for a successful Book Fair and Family Fun Night!

Dr. Swantner mentioned that we are 60 days into the year and are at the end of the 1st Trimester. The focus for Nov/Dec is "Patience." There are posters throughout the school and the monthly mini-meets will be focusing on patience.

Dr. Swantner is working on updating the PTO Bylaws, which has not been done in quite a while. More info to come as updates are available.

A Friendsgiving video was shared. The decorations donated by RES families provided the perfect touch to this very fun lunch. The kids enjoyed it so much! Dr. Swantner thanked the parent volunteers for assisting.

Save the Date - RES Spelling Bee for Grades 4/5/6 will be held on 11/25/24. Night of the Arts for Grades 4/5/6 will be held on December 11, 2024.

Teacher's Report:

Mrs. Skundrich shared that with a tough start to the school year, the parent support has gotten everyone over the hump. Thank you from the teachers!

Miscellaneous:

Volunteer Signup - It was determined that we do in fact need to create and distribute a volunteer signup to secure chairpersons for a few of our planned fundraisers/events and also for the quarterly teacher breakfasts. Kelly will work on this and have it included in a RES 5pm email and posted to the RESPTO facebook page.

Homeroom Parents - PTO is not aware of any volunteers to be homeroom parents for Mrs. Waine (grade 2) or Mrs. Kapchinske (grade 5). Dr. Swantner will reach out to those teachers to see if they secured their own volunteers.

Upcoming Fundraisers & Events:

Oregon Dairy Pie Sale - Thank you to Gail Singleton for organizing this fundraiser. Please plan to pick up pies on **Monday, November 25 from 3:45 - 6pm**. Please do not go to the main doors. You will enter the door near the car rider line area and walk up the Kindergarten hallway where your pies will be sorted and ready to go.

Castle Roller Skating Party - Laura is working on contacting The Castle to work out the details. It looks like we may need to have the event on a Sunday instead of a Saturday as in previous years. The total cost is \$650 and includes admission for 250 people. Rental skates are available for a fee. Once we reach the 250 limit, admission will be charged. Because this is not finalized yet, it was suggested that we look into Overlook as an alternative. Jennifer will contact Overlook.

VIP Dance - We are in need of a chairperson for the VIP Dance. It is currently scheduled for 2/28/25. If you are interested, please contact respto@outlook.com and we will give you the details of how it's been run in the past. It was suggested that the chairperson reach out to the Anchor Club or National Honor Society Members from the High School to help chaperone the dance while fulfilling some of their volunteer requirements. This is a fundraiser for PTO and a lot of fun for the students and their VIP!

Spring Sub Sale - We have sold S. Clyde Weaver sub certificates for the past few years. This year, we will be switching vendors and will participate with Main St. Deli / Boas Fundraising. This allows for the option of purchasing subs, pretzel sandwiches, salads and/or choosing to purchase a certificate for any of those items. More info to come in 2025. Kelly Miller will chair this event with the support of Gail Singleton and Dina Kovoros.

Fun Fest - Allison will chair this event with the support of the previous Fun Fest committee. New committee members are welcome to join the planning/prepping of the event. Meetings are typically held monthly beginning in January. Fun Fest will be held on Friday, May 9th from 3:30 - 7:30pm. We are looking for a chairperson for the Basket Raffle that is held during Fun Fest. The previous chairperson has a lot of good notes and resources to pass along! Please email respto@outlook.com if you're interested.

New Fundraising Ideas:

Fun Run - It was reported that another local school raised over \$30k with a fun run. PTO is definitely interested in exploring this in more detail. This could possibly be a fundraiser for the current school year or may have to wait for the 25-26 school year.

Restaurant Night Outs - PTO would love to see the return of Restaurant Night Outs. There are MANY local restaurants that participate in this. The process normally includes contacting the restaurant, choosing a date, spreading the word on social media and with a printed flier and a portion of the sales from that day are given to the PTO. We are looking for volunteers to coordinate one or more of these for the current school year.

Other Ideas - Harvest Dance, Trunk or Treat, Cake Walk, Talent/Variety Show

Next PTO Meeting will be held on Monday, January 27th

6:30pm in the RES Library

We hope to see you there!