

ROLAND PARK COUNTRY SCHOOL
Parents' Association Minutes
Friday September 9, 2011

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Meeting was held in the Trustee Seminar Room and was called to order at 7:45am by Tammy Fawcett, President.

Present: Tammy Fawcett, Ingrid Obrecht, Carol Hunt, Mary O'Hern, JoAnne Hitt, Theresa Leatherbury, Mary Louise Woolley, Mary Alane Downs, Kathy Blue, Jenny Washburne

President's Report: Tammy Fawcett

Mrs. Fawcett welcomed the new Executive Board to the 2011-2012 school year.

The only new business pending is that we are awaiting a proposal from the Middle School regarding ordering t-shirts for a MS Swing Dance. The proposal will be discussed at next month's meeting.

Tammy asked the group to emphasize communication within departments of the PA.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:54am.

FULL BOARD MEETING

Meeting was held in the Trustee Seminar Room and was called to order at 8:04am by Ingrid Obrecht, Vice President, who was chairing the meeting for Tammy Fawcett.

Present: Jean Brune, Ingrid Obrecht, Carol Hunt, Mary O'Hern, JoAnne Hitt, Theresa Leatherbury, Mary Louise Woolley, Mary Alane Downs, Kathy Blue, Jenny Washburne, Nancy Mugule, Steven Shramko, Tonya Hardy, Lisa Haywood, Sheeba Matthew, Amy Sponseller, Aileen Grebow, Amy Sponseller, Georgia Usry, Ingrid Polk, Cindy Rohde, Kim Mitchell Wolff, Diana Sugiuchi

Absent: Tammy Fawcett, Cindy Cook, Lee Roebuck, Donna Sturtz

President's Report (Tammy Fawcett):

No additional report to the written report submitted.

Mrs. Obrecht welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made by the new members of the PA Board.

Carol Hunt made a motion which was seconded by Amy Sponseller to approve the minutes from the May meeting. The minutes were passed unanimously.

Lower School Network Report (Donna Sturtz):

No Report.

Middle School Report (Kathy Blue):

Mrs. Blue reported that MS Back to School Night went well.

The 8th grade mixer is next Friday and will be held in the courtyard.

The 7th and 8th grades are preparing for their camping trips which are coming up in September.

We are in need of a coordinator for the 7th grade mixer - if anyone is interested, please call or email Kathy.

Parent Socials:

8th grade - October 1st.

6th grade - possible same night as 8th as there is quite a bit of crossover in the two grades.

7th - undecided - still looking for a host.

Upper School Report (Mary Alane Downs):

Mrs. Downs reported that all Network Reps for the Upper School are in place.

The 9th grade social will be held at school and we are looking for a coordinator.

10th, 11th, & 12th have hosts & hostesses.

Post Prom Report (Aileen Grebow):

Mrs. Grebow reported that prom will be held on April 28th, 2012.

A survey was sent to 11th & 12th graders from last year regarding prom, and the feedback was very positive. A tentative hold has been placed on the bowling alley in Timonium for Post Prom.

Treasurer's Report (JoAnne Hitt):

The PA budget for the 2011-2012 school year:

Start: \$8600

Projected deficit: \$5,340

We currently have 945 families registered at RPCS.

Holiday Fair (Steve Shramko):

Mr. Shramko reported that 25% (12) vendor spots have been filled. We definitely need non jewelry vendors.

There are three concerns for the fair

- Middle School Coordinator

- Lower School Coordinator

- Bake Sale Coordinator

If anyone has any ideas for these positions, please let Steve know.

The first Holiday Fair Meeting is scheduled for 9/27. More information is to follow.

Re-Sale Shop (Georgia Usry):

Mrs. Usry reported that last sale we ended with proceeds of \$2,202. Over the summer, the shop was organized and cleaned. All old clothes and items that were not in good condition were disposed of. The pre-school sale netted \$1781 and the next sale is scheduled for next Tuesday. We have come to the realization that we are making more money with fewer sales, so we will be following that model in the coming year. The resale shop has also decided not to be open during the Holiday Fair.

Head of School Report (Jean Brune):

Mrs. Brune welcomed the new PA Board and reported that we are off to a great start. She thanked the group for all of the hard work throughout the school year.

It was noted that the turf athletic fields drained nicely during the hurricane and subsequent rain storms to be ready for the Sally Nyborg Field Hockey Tournament. The new logos have been painted on the fields and look great.

Mrs. Brune thanked the Class of 2011 for the newly placed water fountains in the school - they have been well received.

The new landscaping has been placed on Roland Avenue to replace the Cypress trees damaged by the fire last year. The new look has been well received by everyone at school AND in the nearby community.

Mrs. Brune also informed the board that The Examiner ran an article on RPCS and our "1st".

Among the firsts, Roland Park is the first independent school to have a girls' Chess Club and we were the first girls school to have a Cum Laude Chapter.

Four of our new preschoolers are children of employees who graduated from Little Bear!

The Athletic Department has begun concussion testing for all athletes. All fall athletes have finished testing.

Mrs. Brune informed us of a few personnel changes, which included that Mrs. Cathy Heflin will be taking over as the head of the bookstore. Kathy Krieger has taken a position at the St. Paul's School for Boys. We will miss her, but wish her well.

Mrs. Brune has a new assistant, Lori Song, who has taken over for Claudia Sandberg who has retired.

Mrs. Ereni Malfa is settled into her new position as Head of the Upper School. Mrs. Joan Smith is enjoying time in NH now, but will be returning next week. On September 17th, she will be traveling to Korea as an ambassador for RPCS and to look into boarding school possibilities for Roland Park.

The school is currently looking into a new look for the Harris Center. We have purchased a new desk which will be located directly in front of the main doors. Other decorating options are being considered, including student artwork. There will be a separate area for security and new ceiling fans

Hospitality (Tonya Hardy):

No Report

Nominating (Jenny Washburne):

No Report

Mentor (Sheeba Mathew, Diana Sugiuchi & Lisa Haywood):

The Upper School Mentor program is successful, but there was a suggestion that the 9th grade reps are in place before the end of the school year to ensure a smooth transition back from summer break. Mrs. Downs brought up the fact that there are still families enrolling throughout the summer, so this may not be possible.

Several attendees of the meeting suggested that we have better communication for new families.

Volunteer (Ingrid Polk):

Mrs. Polk reported that everything is organized and working well with coordinating volunteers. It is still a challenge with LS & MS using paper volunteer forms and the Upper School volunteer sign ups being online. Although there has been some confusion, we are making great progress with filling needed spots.

Communications/Web (Nancy Mugele):

Mrs. Mugele shared that the September Newsletter is online. There is a new all school news tab on our website. We currently have over 900 Facebook Fans on Facebook and also have a new Flickr account which has newly loaded photos from the convocation.

Web Secretary (Mary Louise Woolley):

Mrs. Woolley suggested that we encourage parents to log onto the web and go to ParentNet often!!! She will be meeting with Nancy Mugele regularly and welcomed any suggestions or comments.

Enrollment (Amy Sponseller)

Mrs. Sponseller reported that we currently have 664 students enrolled at RPCS, which includes the new preschool. There are 93 new students this year with one new 11th grader from China.

RPCS has had 15 student enrolled between April 1st and the beginning of the school year.

Rolling admissions has become a new trend, making certain dates for enrollment flexible. The admissions department is always busy and getting new inquiries often. We are in the process of creating a fact sheet for the enrollment team.

Mrs. Sponseller announced that October 16th will be the next open house. The application and application fee for RPCS is now online.

Alumni Relations (Kim Mitchell Wolff)

Mrs. Wolff reported that the 1st Alumni meeting will be held next week at Mrs. Brune's home.

The gift wrap fundraising campaign will begin on October 7th and will include the Entertainment Book for an additional \$35. Information is being sent home with ALL students.

New Business

No further business before the Board, meeting was adjourned at 9:45am

Respectfully submitted by,
Mary O'Hern, Recording Secretary