

Rocky River PTA Council Minutes September 8, 2009

12:35 Meeting was called to order.

President Deb Furry welcomed all to the first meeting of the 2009-2010 school year. Deb introduced the Executive Board:

Ellen Ballas, 1st Vice President Dr. Michael Shoaf, 2nd Vice President Mary Holtz, Treasurer Mary Amsdell, Recording Secretary Cheryl Kovesdy, Corresponding Secretary

Deb stated that all delegates need to commit to a committee, sign-up sheet is going around. There were four \$1,000 scholarships awarded in the spring from the PTA Council. If any committee is need of an e-mail blast, please let her know.

Recording Secretary, Mary Amsdell, called to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the May 12, 2009 meeting. Cheryl Kovesdy made the motion and Ellen Ballas seconded and the motion passed. Future minutes can be found on each units web site or will be available at the meetings.

First Vice President's Report: Ellen Ballas, stated her duties will be to form a nominating committee in January and work with council to name scholarship recipients. Ellen also noted that babysitting will be available at all council meetings.

Second Vice President: Dr. Michael Shoaf, Superintendent of Schools, introduced the following individuals:

Jean Rounds: School Board Member Jen Norman: Principal at Goldwood Sam Gifford: Principal at the Middle School Liz Anderson: Director of Curriculum Dianna Foley: Director of Communication and Technology

Liz Anderson gave an update on the Strategic Plan. We are in phase 3 of the plan. Interested individuals may go on-line if interested in joining a committee for the strategic plan. They include Communications, Facilities, Human Resources, Curriculum/Co-Curriculum, Finance and Technology. Future updates will be posted on-line.

Dianne Foley is looking forward to working with everyone on communication. There are new contacts for the local newspapers, she will distribute that information. The district website has been updated, now have an e-mail notification system.

Dr. Shoaf stated that all is going well in the district and is in the process of hiring an architect for the master strategic plan. Treasurer, Mary Holtz, reviewed the budget and the audit (see attached). Mary Holtz made a motion to approve the budget and accept the audit. Ellen Ballas seconded, motion passed.

Corresponding Secretary, Cheryl Kovesdy, will continue to send out invitations on-line for future meetings.

High School PTA President, Gwen Paull for Ann Stemen, stated that the high school will do the fruit sale again this year.

Middle School PTA President, Paige Farling, welcomed new principal, Sam Gifford and the council delegates. Open houses went well. September 16 kicks off the magazine drive to help kids raise money for their Washington DC trip. Bike helmet safety program is being held at school to promote safety. The school has a display case in the entrance of building to be used by the PTA, if anyone would like to promote something, please let Paige know. Fifth Quarter is being offered to students to attend after the home varsity football games. It is held at Rocky River United Methodist Church, pick-up is no later that 11:00 pm. Popcorn Fridays are being

held to help raise money for the scholarship fund. Next Wednesday is the next PTA meeting at 9:00.

Kensington School PTA President, Anette Sullivan. The focus at Kensington will be Health and Wellness. Fun Lunch and Pizza Days will start soon. The first PTA meetings will be held this Wednesday night and Thursday morning. The Ice Cream Social is this Friday. This year at recess there will be a yoga instructor twice a month and a walking program available. Goal this year is to help Mrs. Neitzel with new equipment.

Goldwood School, Ann Hanrahan for Robin Somers. All is going well and the school kits were a success.

Early Childhood, Susan Hemphill. Meetings will now be held at the Middle School. November 20 is the Holiday Auction at Memorial Hall. Working with Goldwood on the Boxtops and Reflections Programs. Kindergarten Information night will be in January.

Standing Committee Reports: Board Of Education, Jean Rounds. There are 5 committees on the board, each member serves on two. Jean and Kathy Goepfert will be at the council meetings to represent the board. Anyone is invited to attend the board meetings. This year the Teacher of the Year went to Brian Salco (Goldwood) and Administrator of the Year to Violet Rafferty (High School).

Boosters, Paige Farling for Kim Pease. The visitor trailer is in need of volunteers at the football games. Burgers and Brats are now available at the games as well.

Education Foundation, Beth Hauck. They have not met yet. Beth's goal is to increase awareness with each unit.

Hospitality, Nina Milenius and Maureen Ridzon. Thank you for providing lunch at the meeting today.

Relay for Life, Paige Farling for the open position, an antique car show will be held in the Rockport parking lot to raise funds.

Ways & Means: Deb Furry gave an update on the Homecoming Dinner to be held on September 25 from 5-7 pm.. The committee is working on donations, if you know of any business or individual that is interested, please let the committee know. Pelicano's will cater a pasta dinner and raffle tickets will be sold for \$1.

New Business: Deb Furry talked about PTA Workshops for the audit. Jean Rounds reminded everyone about the Relay for Life car show on September 13.

Unfinished Business: None The next meeting will be on November 10 at 12:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m..

Respectfully submitted, Mary S. Amsdell tamsdell@aol.com Recording Secretary

Rocky River PTA Council Minutes November 10, 2009

12:35 Meeting was called to order by Deb Furry.

President Deb Furry thanked the Ways and Means Committee for their help at the Homecoming Dinner, over \$3,500 was raised.

Recording Secretary, Mary Amsdell, called to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the September 8, 2009 meeting. Ellen Ballas made the motion and Ann Hanrahan seconded and the

motion passed. Future minutes can be found on each units web site or will be available at the meetings.

First Vice President, Ellen Ballas, will be forming a nominating committee in January. Deb Furry reviewed information from Dianna Foley, Director of Communications and Technology. There are new computer labs in Kensington and Goldwood. Continuing to provide professional development for staff. All parents are encouraged to sign up for the e-mail notification system on the website. All PTA's are consolidating to the rrcs.org website. Nancy Score has donated money to be used for a new PA system at the varsity field. There will be a facilities planning meeting or can go on-line and complete the survey.

Guest Speaker, Debra Bernard, RRHS Principal. Debra introduced Megan Rose, Assistant Principal at RRHS. Debra gave an update on activities at the high school. The high school PTA has a beatification committee that has added umbrella and tables in the courtyard. Recycling bins have been added in the building. Homecoming went well with over 750 students attending the dance. There was a pep rally on the field this year. There are two new faculty members at the school this year. Ann Brokaw, science teacher, won an award in science and will go to Washington DC. Megan Rose gave an update on the professional learning community. Talked about the freshman mentoring program, AP curriculum, and Atomic learning. Atomic Learning website is www.atomiclearning.com. Dianna Foley would be of assistance. The high school is starting new grade level meetings for grade specific information. A new book all will be required to read is 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens. There were 245 in this past graduating class, and 211 freshmen, 236 sophomores, 238 juniors and 203 seniors. Meredith Hauck is a National Merit Finalist. Debra reviewed the accomplishments of the sports and club teams. December 2-4 will be the dates for the play The Spelling Bee.

Jane Campanella, Community Challenge. Jane gave an update on Community Challenge. Next year they will be giving e-mail blast and doing columns in the WestLife. The website is www.community-challenge.org and is on the city website. The offices will move the beach school. Suzanne Miller, Board Member at Community Challenge talked about Challenge Day taking place this week for all the 7th graders. Treasurer, Mary Holtz, made a motion to increase the hospitality budget to \$400. Annette Sullivan seconded, motion passed.

Ann Hanrahan and Kristin StPierre spoke on Why Not Wear A Helmet. Look for more information on the website to order helmets at a discounted price.

High School PTA, Ann Stemen. A Junior Achievement business class will be offered at the high school. The junior class is selling fruit again this year; it is the biggest fundraiser for the scholarship fund.

Middle School PTA, Jen Krebs for Paige Farling. Staff Appreciation Luncheon went well. There will be an 8th grade field trip on lolley the trolley and participate in Play60 which promotes 60 minutes of exercise and eating healthy. The 7th grade has Challenge Days next week. The 6th grade class will have a Junior Achievement program through the social studies department. Kensington PTA, Annette Sullivan. Planning a February Fathers Night. Staff Appreciation is this week. Fun lunch and pizza days are going well. The bookfair went well. Spooky Saturday and the Market Day catalog were a little down. Kensington is a Coats for Kids drop off location. Camp Fitch will be next week for the fourth grade class.

Goldwood Primary School, Ann Hanrahan for Allison Smith. There were 365 members who signed up for the pta this year. The bookfair starts today. Red Ribbon week was successful. Snowflake Palace is coming up in December. The next meeting will be on the 19th at 9:30. Early Childhood PTA, Susan Hemphill. Kids Closet raised \$2,400 with donations going to the Westside Catholic Centers. \$150 was raised in the bake sale for the RR Assistance Program. The PTA is always looking for non profit organizations to make donations to. Had a program on manners and table settings that went well. February 9 is the "Joe, the coupon guy" program. Meetings are held at the RR Middle School. The Holiday Auction is on November 20 at 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

Boosters, Kim Pease. The boosters support the Middle School and High School sports programs. Money is raised by spirit wear sales and the concession stand. A fundraiser will be held on November 20 at Around the Corner from 8-10. It is a trivia show called Bonk.

Education Foundation, Beth Hauck. The Education Foundation gives money back to the schools. This year's fundraiser will be on Saturday March 13 at Westwood Country Club.

New Business: Deb Furry thanked Maureen Ridzon for the lunch. Diane Beer, VP of the HS PTA had put together a storage agreement for the storage unit. Each PTA unit president is responsible for seeing that items are returned and in their original state.

Unfinished Business: Deb Furry is working with Dianna Foley on creating a district wide calendar of events.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday January 12, 2010. The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.. Respectfully submitted, Mary S. Amsdell Recording Secretary

Rocky River PTA Council Minutes January 12, 2009

12:35 Meeting was called to order by Deb Furry.

Recording Secretary, Mary Amsdell, called to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the November 10, 2009 meeting. Ann Hanrahan made the motion and Cheryl Kovesky seconded and the motion passed. Future minutes can be found on each units web site or will be available at the meetings.

First Vice President, Ellen Ballas, had a PTA Council Student Scholarship form. Nominations for this will be accepted until March 1. Ellen is forming a nominating committee for the 2010-11 PTA Council. Volunteers include Kelly Asmar, Allison Smith, Cheryl Kovesdy, Elise Ulshaker, Sandra Muny and Patty Mod. Any person interested in holding a position on the PTA council executive board can contact Ellen.

President, Deb Furry, will send out a copy of the by-laws pertaining to nominating.

Second Vice President, Dr Michael Shoaf, spoke on the potential bond issue in Rocky River. There has been a survey and community sessions to gain feedback on the potential bond for the May ballot. All are welcome to go the rrcs.org website and complete the on- line survey. There is a board meeting this Thursday and all are welcome.

Director of Communication, Dianna Foley, gave information on the website. All are welcome to complete the facilities survey and may sign-up for the State of the Schools on February 9, 2010 at the Civic Center at noon. Dianna recognizes the challenge to communicate information

pertaining to the bond issue and welcomes any suggestions. If you have not already done so you may sign up for the e-mail notification, the link is on the website. If needed there will be a bond committee website since the school website cannot be used.

Guest Speaker, Sam Gifford, RRMS Principal. Mr. Gifford gave an update on activities at the Rocky River Middle School. Student Council is planning the Hoops for Hunger scheduled for February 19, 2010 at the Bay High School. Collecting canned goods or monetary donations. The fundraiser kicks off on February 1. The eighth grade class will be going to Washington DC again this year. The cost of the trip is \$410 will help from those who participated in the magazine drive. Junior Achievement is being implemented in to the sixth grade social studies program. Treasurer, Mary Holtz, was absent with no report. Corresponding Secretary, Cheryl Kovesdy, had no report.

High School PTA, Diane Beer for Ann Stemen. There is a freshman mentoring program starting for the current eight graders and freshman. Senior projects are in the works. There will be a safety seminar in February. Mid-term exams are January 20-22. The fruit sale starts this week. The next PTA meeting is Tuesday January 19 at 1:00 in the maroon and white room at the high school.

Middle School PTA, Paige Farling. The PTA sponsored social dance starts soon and runs for 3 Fridays; Judy Hoesler is the contact person. Maroon and White night is scheduled for February 26 6:30-10:15. They are in the need for donations, volunteers and suggestions of who to contact to solicit donations. Please contact Paige Farling. The third annual Artist Fair is currently selling tables for the fair which will be held the Friday and Saturday of the district wide art show. There are 24 tables available. The next PTA meeting is Wednesday January 20 at 9:00 in the teacher's lunchroom.

Kensington, Annette Sullivan. There will be terra nova testing on February 8. Family Game week is coming up. There was a yoga assembly for the students, all went well. The Ohio Department of Education is conducting a focus group to review the social studies and science standards, if anyone wants to participate, contact Annette. The Talent Show will be held March 19-21. The next PTA meeting is Wednesday at 7 pm and Thursday at 9:30 am.

Goldwood, Annette Smith. Goldwood had a very successful blood drive. Snowflake palace went well. There are first grade field trips and bread making coming up. The hot dog fun lunch will be held later this month. All classrooms will be having valentine's parties. March 4 is the kindergarten information night and they plan to have the supply kit forms available.

Early Childhood, Susan Hemphill. They had a very successful auction raising \$8000. The Early Childhood meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7 in the middle school. The next meeting is the kindergarten information night and next month guest speaker is Joe "the coupon guy". All are welcome. Saturday April 24 will be the Spring Kids Klotset at the high school.

Board of Education, Kathy Goepfert. New board member Rev. Jon Fancher was sworn in along with current board members. Jean Rounds is the new president and Scott Swartz is the vice president. Melissa Ferchill Swingos will run the bond campaign along with recording secretary Nancy Hanson.

Jane Campanella, Community Challenge. Jane gave an update on Community Challenge. Next year they will be giving e-mail blast and doing columns in the WestLife. The website is

www.community-challenge.org and is on the city website. December 7 was the photos with Santa, all went well. The new years skate was on Dec. 31 and was very successful. Family Game Week is February 7-13 with a youth/senior interactive game day scheduled for Feb.6 11-1 with a dollar donation. The basketball challenge cup will be held on April 16.

Education Foundation, Beth Hauck. The Education Foundation fundraiser will be held on Saturday March 13 at Westwood Country Club with a dinner and silent auction. This year's theme is Caddyshack.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday March 9, 2010. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m..

Respectfully submitted, Mary S. Amsdell Recording Secretary

Rocky River PTA Council Minutes March 9, 2010

12:35 Meeting was called to order by Deb Furry.

Recording Secretary, Mary Amsdell, called to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the January 12, 2010 meeting. Julie Tucci made the motion and Patty Mod seconded and the motion passed. Future minutes can be found on each units web site or will be available at the meetings.

Todd Murphy, Kensington Principal, Guest Speaker. Mr Murphy gave an update on Kensington School. The students did well on achievement tests. The Talent Show is next weekend.

SchoolKits order forms are now available. Bookfair is going on this week. KKids did a fundraiser for the disaster in Haiti.

Second Vice President, Dr. Shoaf, spoke on the bond campaign and took questions from the floor. There is a community forum at the library on March 11 at 7pm. There will be a facilities tour at the high school on March 16, 18 and 20.

President, Deb Furry, made a motion to make a resolution to endorse the bond on behalf of the PTA council. The motion was made by Annette Sullivan and seconded by Beth Hauck. For more information on the bond campaign or to volunteer please go to www.riverschools.org.

First Vice President, Ellen Ballas. Ellen presented the slate of officers for the 2010/11 Executive Board for PTA Council. President: Ann Coyne Vice President: Mary Amsdell

Corresponding Secretary: Ann Hanrahan Recording Secretary: Cheryl Kovesdy Treasurer:

Kristin St.Pierre Motion was made to accept the slate and passed.

Ellen presented the PTA Council Scholarships: Jim Scheida Honorarium Scholarship Retiring Teaching Staff Honorarium Scholarship Retiring Support Staff Honorarium Scholarship Sally Case Memorial Scholarship

Motion was made to accept the above scholarships. Motion passed.

Treasurer, Mary Holtz. Motion was made by Ellen Ballas and seconded by Ann Hanrahan to approve a \$1000 donation to the bond campaign. Vote taken and motion passed. A motion was made by Jen Krebs and seconded by Ann Hanrahan to approve a line item increase to buy bank checks. Vote taken and motion passed.

Corresponding Secretary, Cheryl Kovesdy, had no report. High School PTA, Ann Stemen, gave an update on the high school activities. National Merit Scholar is Meredith Hauck. Girls Basketball is in the finals. OGD testing is taking place for the sophomores. April 22 is the all

schools band concert. Kiss Me Kate is this year's spring musical. Spring sports are starting this week. Forensics has state qualifiers. The Fruit Sale was a success and made over \$1,500. Middle School PTA, Paige Farling. Maroon and White night was delayed due to a snow day. The event was successful. The Artist and Vendor Sale is scheduled for the first week in May along with the district wide art show. The 8th grade graduation dance is being planned. March 17 9am is the next PTA meeting. Hoops for Hungar went very well and their goal of \$20,000 was achieved. The Pirates is the musical currently being performed. A winter sports award assembly is coming up. The school is holding a blood drive, any one interested may call Gwen Hampel to register. The Jazz and Choir recital is coming up and the Science Olympiad team qualified for state. Kensington, Annette Sullivan. The Kensington PTA passed a resolution to endorse the bond campaign. They are working with Goldwood to welcome the second graders when they come for their school visit. The 5th grade DARE event is being planned. The bookfair is currently being held in the school library. School Kit forms are being accepted to order school supplies for next school year.

Goldwood, Ann Hanrahan for Allison Smith. Goldwood is having a guest author in the school. There will also be a food drive. Safety Day is coming up with "Why Not Wear a Helmet". The next PTA meeting is March 18. On March 19 the second graders will go see the talent show at Kensington.

Early Childhood, Susan Hemphill. The spring kids closet is coming up and tables are still available. The next meeting is tonight at the Middle School at 7 with guest speaker and chef from Sweet Melissa's talking about organic foods.

Jane Campanella, Community Challenge. Jane gave an update on Community Challenge. Next year they will be giving e-mail blast and doing columns in the WestLife. The website is www.community-challenge.org and is on the city website. The Basketball Challenge Cup will be held on April 16. Jane has moved her office to the Beech building. Parenting classes and Parents Morning Out classes are in the works for the spring and summer.

Education Foundation, Beth Hauck. The Education Foundation fundraiser will be held on Saturday March 13 at Westwood Country Club with a dinner and silent auction. This year's theme is Caddyshack.

Booster, Kim Pease. Boosters is always looking for volunteers. Please contact Kim if you are interested.

Hospitality, Nina Milenius. The Installation Luncheon will be held on May 11 at the Cleveland Yachting Club. This is for all of the old and new executive board members. Invitations will be sent on-line.

"Why Not Wear a Helmet", Ann Hanrahan. Helmets will be available on-line for order.

New Business: All PTA units need to turn in their new executive board slates to Deb Furry. Please include all information including name, e-mail, phone numbers etc.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday May 11, 2010 at the Cleveland Yachting Club. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m..

Respectfully submitted, Mary S. Amsdell Recording Secretary

Rocky River PTA Council Minutes May 9, 2010

12:00 Meeting was called to order by Deb Furry at the Cleveland Yachting Club for the annual Installation Luncheon.

Recording Secretary, Mary Amsdell, called to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the March 2010 meeting. Ann Hanrahan made the motion, seconded by Kristen StPierre and the motion passed. Future minutes can be found on each units web site or will be available the the meetings.

Second Vice President, Dr. Michael Shoaf, thanked all in attendance for their support with the recent bond campaign. He also thanked all of those involved in the PTA units.

Treasurer, Mary Holtz, had no report.

Corresponding Secretary, Cheryl Kovesdy, is working on responses for the High School PTA awards ceremony.

First Vice President, Ellen Ballas, presented Deb Furry with a thank you gift in recognition of her two years as PTA council president.

President, Deb Furry, introduced Ann Coyne. She will be next years PTA council president. Ann and all unit PTA presidents were asked to introduce their new board members and recognize all outgoing board members. School Board President, Jean Rounds, thanked all PTA members and recited the PTA mission statement. She held the installation of officers.

Unfinished Business: A reminder to all unit treasurers that an audit will need to be conducted before the books are transferred to the new treasurer for the next school year.

General Announcements: Incoming Delegates were reminded that they need to sign up for a committee for the next year. Please see Ann Coyne. Outgoing delegates were reminded that they need to please return their reports and folder to Ann Coyne. All unit presidents should work on their calendar and submit it to Dianna Foley. Deb thanked hospitality chairs, Maureen Ridzon and Nina Millenius for a great luncheon and thank you to all outgoing officers.

The meeting was adjourned. Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Amsdell