

## Rocky River PTA Council Minutes

September 14, 2010

12:30 Meeting was called to order by Ann Coyne.

Recording Secretary, Cheryl Kovesdy called to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the May 9, 2010 meeting. Jen Krebs made the motion and Mary Amsdell seconded and the motion passed.

Vice President, Mary Amsdell, reported that she will manage nominations for PTA council for 2011 as well as oversee the naming and distribution of high school scholarships this spring.

Second vice President, Dr. Shoaf, spoke of the public sale of school bonds that started today. There will be a public meeting held in October to review the facilities plan. Ground breaking at RRHS will occur in April. Planning continues for KIS and GPS. The presidential address will be aired school wide today at 1:00.

Director of Curriculum, Liz Anderson, shared the great results of our district report grade of Excellent with Distinction and elaborated on what a high honor that is for our district and a reflection of the RRCS community.

Director of Communication, Dianna Foley, updated us on the Alert Now notification system. E mail addresses were obtained via the emergency release forms that were returned. She also updated us on the new Google Apps for Education endeavor. You must log in to access the student areas.

Guest speaker, Ms. Jennifer Norman, gave us an update on Goldwood Primary School. They have a school theme, The Hero's Trail. Each month they will focus on a different characteristic of a hero, such as courage, kindness, etc. The theme will be implemented on many different levels throughout the day and year.

Treasurer, Kristen St. Pierre, reviewed the budget line by line. Please see budget for details. A motion was made by Fayth Sims and seconded by Beth Hauck to approve the budget.

Corresponding Secretary, Ann Hanrahan, not present.

Unit President's Reports:

Ann Stemen shared about the freshman mentoring program and its success. Juniors and seniors apply and are selected to mentor incoming freshman using a structured program. Home coming is October 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be a play later in fall. RRHS very excited about the new PA system donated by the family of Herb Score, there will be a dedication at the football game on Friday. Look for details coming on the fruit sale, which is the largest fund raiser at the high school.

Sandra Muny shared the all is well at the middle school. Magazine sales will be starting tomorrow, please support the kids.

Margie Hackett reported that upcoming activities include the ice cream social and the safety assemblies. Our fall fund raiser has started, the sale will end September 20<sup>th</sup>, order forms have been distributed but are also accessible on line to order mums, pumpkins, and cornstalks for pick up on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Upcoming dates include, pizza day Sept. 21, Fun lunch Sept. 28, and Spooky Saturday October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Deb Decarlo reported they will be having open house on September 15<sup>th</sup>. They hosted a staff appreciation luncheon prior to the start of school. They will be having an ice cream social on Friday.

Brigid Steiner reported that the children of early childhood will be participating in the home coming parade. October 7<sup>th</sup> RR Brewing Company is supporting them by sharing a percentage of those evenings' sales with ECPTA; please take a flyer with you for the payback. Kids Closet will be October 16. The annual auction will be held at the Pub on the 19<sup>th</sup> of November.

Jenny Hess, Board of Education. The community is always welcome to attend the Board of Education meetings which are held the second Wednesday of each month (Curriculum) and the third Thursday of each month (motions). At the last meeting a resolution to recognize the following was made: 2010/2011 employee of the year, 2010/2011 teacher of the year, trustees completing service, as well as the RR Education Foundation that has donated more than 27 thousand dollars in grants.

Gwen Paull, Boosters. Gwenn was absent, but other council members were able to share that boosters is in the midst of a membership drive and are looking for concession stand help.

Jeanne Campanella, Community Challenge Coalition. Jeanne distributed flyers featuring the coalition's upcoming events including: Parent University on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September and Parents evening out. Care packages will be sent to college freshman providing support and assistance with stress management. They will continue to send out e mail blasts as well as provide articles to the West Life and The Sun.

Beth Hauck, Education Foundation. The Education Foundation is a not for profit, that primarily fund raises. Those funds raised are used to fulfill grants requested by Rocky River teachers and support the educational endeavors of the staff. The recent focus of those grants, are technologically related.

Taryn Cottell, Education Liaison. Reviewed the freshman mentoring program and two honors classes have been added to the freshman curriculum.

Jenn Krebs / Nina Milenius, Employee Appreciation. They will supply the bus garage staff with a special treat in the spring in lieu of appreciation.

Paige Farling, Healthy Rocky River. This is a program that was initiated by Anjanette Arabian Whitman promoting health within Rocky River. On October 20<sup>th</sup>, there will be a wellness fair at the Civic Center.

Elise Ulchaker, Hospitality. Thank you for the delicious lunch served today!

Marcy Leonard, Parliamentarian. The PTA council by laws will be revised.

Fayth Sims, Relay for Life. Look for more details closer to May.

Ways and Means. The community homecoming dinner will be from 4:30-6:30 on Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Pre sales for dinners are being offered/ encouraged. The parade starts at 6:15, pre game at 6:45, and the game versus Midview starts at 7:00. The committee is looking for volunteers to help with set up, serving, and clean up. Flyers were sent home in backpacks.

There is no new or unfinished business. The next meeting will be November 9, 2010, 12:30 at Beach School, The Fireside Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Kovesdy

PTA Council, Recording Secretary

## Rocky River PTA Council Minutes

November 9, 2010

12:30 Meeting was called to order by Ann Coyne.

Recording Secretary, Cheryl Kovesdy called to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the September 14, 2010 meeting. Beth Hauck made the motion and Ann Hanrahan seconded and the motion passed.

Vice President, Mary Amsdell, reported that she has organized a committee to review and revise the bylaws. The committee will consist of Mary Amsdell, Marcy Leonard, Kristen St. Pierre, Ann Hanrahan, Connie Dorenkot, and Elise Ulchaker.

Second Vice President, Dr. Shoaf, spoke of the pending Beach School renovations, with bids opening on Friday. The next school for bidding will be the high school, with building to begin in May. There is no school on Thursday or Friday due to a teacher professional day as well as conferences.

Director of Curriculum, Liz Anderson, shared that the professional day will be focusing on the new academic standards. Implementation of statewide academic content standards will be this years' focus. All content standards will be implemented by the school year 2014-2015 as well as new Ohio standardized testing.

Director of Communication, Dianna Foley, updated us on the Alert Now notification system. Phone calls will only be used for emergency situations. The Google apps implementation is continuing with another series of workshops for families being provided after Thanksgiving. The district is considering the possibility of moving toward another wireless internet access for 7-12 graders, in which students will be able to bring their own devices with them.

Guest speaker, Ms. Debra Bernard, RRHS Principle, gave us an update on Rocky River High School. Currently 891 students are enrolled. Once again, the school received a rating of excellent! 71.6% of students received honor or high honor status. Over 800 students attended the homecoming dance. Student Council sponsored Leadership Day will be held in March. The freshman mentoring program is a success and will continue to adjust to meet the needs of the students.

Treasurer, Kristen St. Pierre, reviewed the budget, highlighting the homecoming dinner financials, please see report for details.

Corresponding Secretary, Ann Hanrahan, nothing new to report. Ann thanked the home coming committee for a job well done. Next years' committee members will be thankful for the organized folders they will receive thanks to Ann Coyne's organizational skills!

## Unit President's Reports:

Ann Stemen shared they will be conducting another membership drive during conferences, since membership is at a low of 113 participants. A community service opportunity in which they will participate is being a local collection site for used prom wear to be given to a charity that gathers the items and hosts a prom for terminally ill kids. The Fruit Sale flyers will be sent out, with the sale starting following the first of the year, please support!

Elise Ulchaker shared that they will be shortening the length of time for fee days. Popcorn Fridays will now be charging for the use of the popcorn machine as well as supplies will need to be purchased separately. Sixth grade social dance and the cookie walk are coming. They are looking for a chair for Maroon and White Night, which is March 18<sup>th</sup>. The directories have been distributed and additional copies are available for purchase.

Margie Hackett reported that Spooky Saturday, fall fundraiser (mum sale), Book Fair and the directory distribution all went well. Camp Fitch is next week. Staff appreciation committee will provide the KIS staff with dinner Thursday evening. The next KIS general meeting is next Thursday. Meredith Muccio is leading Destination Imagination again this year with 42 kids participating.

Deb Decarlo reported upcoming events include: book fair, recycling drive, Identi-kid, Snowflake palace (open to public during Santa photos from 4:30-6:30 the first night), warm clothing collection, blood drive (11-16). Deb introduced Mary Beth De Clerk as a new council delegate for GPS.

Brigid Steiner reported that the children of early childhood enjoyed marching in the home coming parade. November 9<sup>th</sup> is the Holiday Auction at The Pub, starting at 7:00pm. They will be hosting a table at the All Aglow event, where children can make reindeer food.

Jenny Hess, Board of Education. The community is always welcome to attend the Board of Education meetings which are held the second Wednesday of each month (Curriculum) and the third Thursday of each month (motions).

Gwen Paull, Boosters. Not present.

Jeanne Campanella, Community Challenge Coalition. Jeanne distributed flyers featuring the coalition's upcoming events including: Generational Differences and What Every Parent Should Know. Care packages will be sent to college freshman providing support and assistance with stress management and will host a dodge ball reunion on December 29<sup>th</sup>.

Beth Hauck, Education Foundation. Please participate in The Turkey Trot which will be held the Sunday prior to Thanksgiving, monies raised will help support the Rocky River Education Foundation.

Taryn Cottell, Education Liaison. Not present.

Jenn Krebs / Nina Milenius, Employee Appreciation. Not present.

Paige Farling, Healthy Rocky River. No report.

Elise Ulchaker, Hospitality. Thanks to Donato's of Rocky River for donating pizza and salad for today's meeting. Thank you for the delicious lunch served today!

Marcy Leonard, Parliamentarian. The PTA council bylaws will be revised.

Fayth Sims, Relay for Life. Look for more details closer to May.

Ways and Means. No report.

Just an fyi, the RRHS band is selling Honey Baked Ham gift certificates, please see a band member to purchase! There is no new or unfinished business. The next meeting will be January 11, 2011, 12:30 at The Board of Education.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Kovesdy

PTA Council, Recording Secretary

## Rocky River PTA Council Minutes

January 11, 2011

12:30 Meeting was called to order by Ann Coyne.

Recording Secretary, Cheryl Kovesdy called to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the November 9, 2010 meeting. Kristen St. Pierre made the motion and Beth Hauck seconded and the motion passed.

Vice President, Mary Amsdell, reported that she needs to form a nominating committee to nominate executive officers for 2011-2012, the following volunteered; Paige Farling, Elise Ulchaker, Deb Decarlo, Jen Krebs, and Nina Milenius. Scholarship nomination forms were distributed, they need to be returned to Mary with name suggestions in six weeks. The changes to the by-laws were highlighted, namely the description of the standing committees as well as the fact that two people need to countersign for financial transactions. A motion to approve the new by-laws was made by Deb Decarlo and seconded by Fayth Sims.

Second Vice President, Dr. Shoaf, reminded those in attendance of the upcoming State of Schools Address on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Beach School is currently under construction with plans of gutting the 19260's section down to the steel. The board hopes to move in by July. They are waiting to hear the final decision from the state level, regarding all day kindergarten, they will proceed accordingly.

Director of Curriculum, Liz Anderson, shared that the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> grades will be performing the Terra Nova testing in February. Implementation of statewide academic content standards continues to be her focus. All content standards will be implemented by the school year 2014-2015 as well as new Ohio standardized testing.

Director of Communication, Dianna Foley, informed us that starting in the spring, the facilities use request form will be on line.

Guest speaker, Mr. Sam Gifford, RRMS Principle, gave us an update on the Rocky River Middle School. The school has started a new program called The Pirates Program which will provide anti bullying events for kids "who do the right thing". The first event is a social event at the school on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January. Hoops for Hunger is starting 1/31, with the basketball game being held on February 18<sup>th</sup>. The proceeds benefit the Cleveland Food bank with a goal of \$25,000 set. Google Apps has been successful at the school and are now considering implementing a Google Portfolio to store documents for each student. Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> is the end of the quarter. Mid-term examinations will be held the 13-20<sup>th</sup>. Awards ceremonies are coming up for the second quarter, looking for feedback on how the awards are handled. Two new successful clubs at RRMS are the Lego and technology clubs. 419 coat ensembles were collected and distributed to the RRAP. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Washington DC trip planning is underway, \$419 per student with magazine sales off setting that total. The office renovation following a water leak will be completed in eight weeks.

Treasurer, Kristen St. Pierre, all donations from home coming dinner fund RRHS scholarships. Please see report for details.

Corresponding Secretary, Ann Hanrahan, not present.

Unit President's Reports:

Ann Stemen shared fruit sale flyers and post cards will be distributed. Orders are due on the 11<sup>th</sup> and fruit pick up is the 24<sup>th</sup> of February.

Sandra Muny shared that 6<sup>th</sup> grade social dance will be held 1/28, 2/4, and 2/11. 7<sup>th</sup> grade Challenge Days will be held in March. Maroon and White Night will be held in March for all RRMS students, with Paige Farling chairing the event.

Margie Hackett reported that Kensington Players will present their talent show March 11-13. KIS PTA will provide new students with a spirit wear welcome kit. The fall mum/pumpkin sale did not bring in enough funds to cover needs. Colleen O'Toole will be chairing a shaped pasta sale.

Deb Decarlo reported upcoming Snowflake Palace was a success. There was a large number of volunteers for the cookie walk. January will bring a staff appreciation breakfast for the staff and a fun lunch for the kids. A food drive will be held in March.

Early Childhood reported that their auction event raised 10 thousand dollars. Kindergarten information night will be held this evening.

Jenny Hess, Board of Education. Not present.

Gwen Paull, Boosters. Not present.

Jeanne Campanella, Community Challenge Coalition. Jeanne distributed flyers featuring the coalition's upcoming events including. Photos with Santa raised \$500. The freshman care package distribution went well with positive feedback received. New

Years Eve skate was well attended. February 6-12 is family game week.

Beth Hauck, Education Foundation. The Turkey Trot raised \$5,000. The annual fund raiser is a Mardi Gras theme and will be held at Westwood Country Club March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Taryn Cottell, Education Liaison. Not present. Liz Anderson reported Success Maker is an on line resource that RRCS was able to purchase through federal grant monies. This program replaced an older version. It is being used at Goldwood and Kensington schools. The program adjusts to the individual needs of the student. They are working on purchasing more licenses to make the program available to be used at home as well.

Jenn Krebs / Nina Milenius, Employee Appreciation. They are aiming to set up an appreciation date in March.



Paige Farling, Healthy Rocky River. Paige read the mission statement. The goal of the program is to provide free health and wellness programs to the citizens of Rocky River.

Elise Ulchaker/Ellen Ballas, Hospitality. Thank you for the delicious lunch served today!

Marcy Leonard, Parliamentarian. Not present.

Fayth Sims, Relay for Life. January 12, an award will be given honoring our participation and contribution in Relay for Life.

Ways and Means. No report.

New Business. PTA Council executive board has discussed the possibility of moving the meetings to the morning for reasons including; less disruptive to the schedule of members day.

Just an fyi, the RRCS school board meeting will be held this Thursday at 7:00pm to discuss the school calendar. The next meeting will be March 8, 2011, 12:30 in the Curriculum Library at The Board of Education.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Kovesdy

PTA Council, Recording Secretary

## Rocky River PTA Council Minutes

March 8, 2011

12:30 Meeting was called to order by Ann Coyne.

Recording Secretary, Cheryl Kovesdy called to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the January 11, 2011 meeting. Paige Farling made the motion and Fayth Sims seconded, the motion passed.

Vice President, Mary Amsdell, reported that the nominating committee has a complete slate of executive officers for 2011-2012, the following complete the slate; President Ann Hanrahan, Vice President Allison Smith, Treasurer Mary Amsdell, Recording Secretary Paige Farling, Corresponding Secretary Elise Ulchaker. The board was approved unanimously. The 2010-2011 PTA Scholarships have been named for the following; In Honor of Employees with 35 or more years of Service, Retiring Support Staff, Retiring Teaching Staff at Goldwood Primary and Kensington Intermediate, Retiring Teaching Staff at RRMS and RRHS. The scholarships were approved unanimously.

Second Vice President, Dr. Shoaf, distributed copies of the school calendar for the next two years. The facilities plan is continuing, with the most changes seen at Beach School. The Board of Education plans on moving into Beach School July 1<sup>st</sup>. RRHS to bid out their facilities plan in March. Contract negotiations went very well, and were approved by the Board of Education. The new contracts will save the district 1.6 million in health care costs alone. The formerly discussed high school dance issues are continuing to be addressed. In coordination with the RRPD, RRHS was searched by drug dogs this past Presidents Day with the parking lot searched the following day. Fewer than five cars were brought to their attention, those students parents were notified of the results

Director of Curriculum, Liz Anderson was not present.

Director of Communication, Dianna Foley, informed us that the facilities use request form is now on line. Each PTA unit will be trained in usage of the on line system. Each PTA unit has a Google Apps account. Diana will train each unit how to use the system, this could lead to the elimination of paper binders, all documents such as committee reports can be up loaded to the on line account! Two things that are continuing include going wireless at the RRMS and RRHS, as well as working toward an on line medical authorization form.

Guest speaker, Mr. Todd Murphy, Kensington Intermediate Principle, shared his gratitude towards the PTA for all of its support and commitment to the students. Upcoming events at the school include: talent show this weekend as well as Destination Imagination competition, the book fair and breakfast, and the Chick Fil A fundraiser tonight. A tutoring academy was instituted February 1<sup>st</sup>. The audience is the neediest students with below grade level grades. They meet Monday-Thursday, after school for 75 minutes, than are bussed home. It has been quite successful thus far. The focus is not on test prep but skill acquisition. Kensington's facilities plan will start on May 19<sup>th</sup>, with the renovation of the auditorium into the new cafeteria/auditorium.

Treasurer, Kristen St. Pierre was not present. Please see report for details.

Corresponding Secretary, Ann Hanrahan, no report.

Unit President's Reports:

Ann Stemen shared fruit sale was a success, the school is wrapping up winter sports and transitioning into spring sports, March 16<sup>th</sup> is the band / choir concert, mid April is the musical, and lastly Seniors will be starting their Senior projects May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Paige Farling reported for Sandra Muny. March 18<sup>th</sup> is Maroon and White Night, March 22-23 is 7<sup>th</sup> grade Challenge Days, looking for volunteers to decorate their lockers on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance will be held at Memorial Hall on May 20<sup>th</sup>. The Fitness Department is organizing a bike to school event throughout the month of May

Margie Hackett reported that Kensington earned two thousand dollars though the pasta sale. Upcoming events include: talent show, book fair and breakfast, the completion of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade mural, and future assemblies. The Community Challenge Respect forum was a success. The next PTA meeting is this Thursday at 9:30, featuring a guest speaker from the RRPD. Voting for Executive officers will also take place.

Deb Decarlo reported upcoming events include: a food drive in March, the book fair and safety day in April, Executive Officers will be voted on at the next meeting. Right to Read Week was a success. The Schoolkidz kits sale is underway.

Early Childhood – not present, Ann Hanrahan reported April 9<sup>th</sup> is the Kids Kloset.

Jenny Hess, Board of Education. Not present. Dr. Jon Fancher reported that the contract negotiations went very well from both view points, the board is pleased with the process.

Gwen Paull, Boosters reported that the parent party fund raiser raised \$900. March 25<sup>th</sup> a techno dance will take place. The Boosters are looking for a new President as the Foley's have stepped down. Boosters has a goal of distributing \$70,000 in funds, they distributed \$63,000 last year. They are planning on updating the water fountain at the stadium.

Jeanne Campanella, Community Challenge Coalition. Not present.

Beth Hauck, Education Foundation. Not present. The annual fund raiser is a Mardi Gras theme and will be held at Westwood Country Club March 19<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in attending or making a donation contact either Amy Massad or Jen Davis.

Taryn Cottell, Education Liaison. Taryn discussed all of the benefits of Progress book.

Jenn Krebs / Nina Milenius, Employee Appreciation. They are aiming to set up an appreciation date in April.

Paige Farling, Healthy Rocky River. There are two free events hosting speakers. Both events take place at the Rocky River civic Center. March 31<sup>st</sup> will discuss nutrition, and April 14<sup>th</sup> will discuss children and nutrition.

Elise Ulchaker/Ellen Ballas, Hospitality. Thank you for the delicious lunch served today! The final meeting will be held at the Cleveland Yachting Club at 12:30, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$16 per person.

Marcy Leonard, Parliamentarian. Not present.

Fayth Sims, Relay for Life. The event will start at 11:00 am May 28<sup>th</sup>. The St. Edwards Trash Talkers will be part of the line-up of entertainment.

Ways and Means. No report.

New Business. Please e mail Ann Hanrahan with each PTA Units new slate of Executive Officers as soon as confirmed. Homecoming will be held September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40. The next meeting is May 10<sup>th</sup> at The Cleveland Yachting club at 12:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Kovesdy

PTA Council, Recording Secretary

## Rocky River PTA Council Minutes

May 10, 2011

12:35 meeting called to order by President Ann Coyne. Ann welcomed all in attendance to the annual Installation luncheon. Ann read the PTA mission statement. She also announced that Rocky River PTA was awarded the Golden Acorn Award from the state level in recognition of our above 5% increase in membership. Lastly, Ann asked that all outgoing delegates return their committee binders to Ann Hanrahan.

Recording Secretary, Cheryl Kovesdy called to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the March 8, 2011 meeting. Amy Eberlein made the motion and Kristen St. Pierre seconded, the motion passed.

Vice President, Mary Amsdell presented Ann Coyne with a gift in appreciation for her hard work and commitment to PTA.

Second vice President, Dr. Michael Shoaf, thanked those in attendance for their commitment to Rocky River PTA.

Treasurer, Kristen St. Pierre, had no report.

President, Ann Coyne, introduced Ann Hanrahan. She will be next year's PTA council president. Ann and all PTA unit presidents recognized their outgoing board members. The incoming president introduced their incoming board members. School board member, Jean Rounds, thanked all of those in attendance. She congratulated each unit president and gave them a token of appreciation. She conducted the installation of the new officers.

General announcements: Incoming delegates were reminded that they need to sign up for a committee position, please see Ann Hanrahan. Outgoing members were reminded to turn their committee binders in to Ann Hanrahan. Ann thanked the hospitality chairs, Elise Ulchaker and Ellen Ballas for a great luncheon and thank you to all.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Kovesdy

PTA Council, Recording Secretary