

Mary Rieke PTA
General PTA Business Meeting
3/21/2017 6:30pm

Board Members in attendance:

*indicates Executive Officer

*Co-President Brian Unflat
*Co-President Holly Ingram
*Co-Vice President Paul Higgins
*Treasurer Mike Kale
*Secretary Kes Wold
*Fundraising Coordinator Melissa Light
Co-Events Coordinator Kimberly Allen
Co-Events Coordinator Joelle Allen
Membership Coordinator Christine Surratt
Volunteer Coordinator Adrienne Hays
Imagine Campaign Chair and Playground Committee Chair Jim Meurer

PTA Members/Public:

See Appendix 1 for attendance

1. Call to Order

The Rieke PTA General Business Meeting was called to order at Rieke Elementary at 6:30pm, March 21, 2017 by President Brian Unflat. Notice was given to all PTA members via email. Secretary Kes Wold confirmed that a quorum of members as stated in the standing rules (7 voting members) was present.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the previous PTA General Business meeting (February 21, 2017) have been made available on the riekepta.org Web site. There were no corrections made and the minutes are considered approved.

3. Reports

Auction

Fundraising Coordinator Melissa Light provided an update on fundraising activity to date.

Theme is “Where Their Future Begins” 2017 auction update. Our largest fundraiser. Saturday 3/11 at the MJCC.

Raised almost \$73K (after expenses closer to \$60K.)

MJCC venue worked well, will likely use the same venue next year, but are looking at ways to reconfigure the seating to allow for more participants.

Art Fair

Request for Art Fair volunteers. Please contact Mel if interested.

Principal’s Report

Principal Sarah Lewins provided an update on staffing for the next year.

PPS is expecting a \$25 million budget cut for next year. State issue with funding shortfall of nearly \$1 billion dollars. Reflects a local PPS impact of about \$18 million.

Statewide funding for schools needs to reach 8.4 billion. (We’re currently almost at \$8B.) Need to get to \$8.1 just to do this.

Rieke is scheduled to lose 1 FTE. We are hoping for the PTA to move some of the funds over to the Foundation to remain as-is with 17 teachers. But no gains.

PPS losing about 120FTE across the district.

Looking for \$65,000 from the PTA to help fund.

Explained the equity split shared with other schools via All Hands Raised.

Need the commitment by 4/3, but the funds don’t need to be deposited until later in the year.

Maintaining the status quo for next year, one of our 5th grade teachers will move down to 4th grade. All grades except for 5th will be 3 strands (and 2 for 5th grade.)

4th grade class is the smallest, and they have 2 teachers this year. Will maintain the same for next year.

MOTION to allocate \$75,000 to the “foundation for direct staff” line item of our current budget, and authorize a donation to the Rieke Foundation not to exceed that amount, to fund a teacher for next year.

MOTION seconded

MOTION carried with none opposed or abstaining.

4. Program

5. Playground Committee Update

Jim Meurer and Paul Higgins provided an update on the playground. Playground Committee trying to obtain funding from as many outside sources as possible (grants, etc.)

The Run for Rieke will be a big fundraiser for us this year.

Combined playground design available and on the Web site. Not a final design, but getting close.

Looking for in-kind donations (labor, etc.) to reduce costs.

6. Run for Rieke

Blythe introduced the Run for Rieke. This year the race is a PTA event raising money for the playground.

Pledge forms will be going out soon. We will need to send them back by 4/6. Race is 4/10. Rain day is 4/11. Forms returned after the race, and need to be returned by 5/12.

Raised nearly \$30K last year.

This year all grades will run at the same time (with staging and dedicated lanes)

Need volunteers to mark wrist bands. Check Volunteer Spot for opportunities.

Participation prizes available for returning race forms.

7. Rieke Spirit wear

Bringing back apparel items as a fundraiser. Order forms next week, available all year. SchoolPay might be an option. Earmarked for the playground.

8. Rummage Sale

Planned for next fall. Save your items and this could fund the foundation.

9. Mercy Corps Cascadia Earthquake Preparedness

Susan Romanski from Mercy Corps provided a presentation on preparing for the Cascadia subduction zone earthquake that has a greater than 30% chance of impacting our region in the next 50 years.

Suggestion of 2 (or more) volunteers to form a PTA Earthquake Committee. Can collect emergency supplies, carry out a reunification drill, and look for/anticipate hazards.

10. Membership Report

The report from Membership Coordinator Christine Surratt was deferred this month due to time.

11. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mike Kale provided a brief update on current PTA finances. Roughly \$30K in the operating account, \$90K in reserves, and \$28K in the playground fund.

12. Correspondence

[None]

13. Unfinished Business

[None]

14. New Business

[None]

15. Announcements

[None]

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31pm.

Appendix 1:

Attendance sign-in sheet, records kept in PTA files