

RPMS PTA – Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday October 11, 2016 7:30pm – 9 pm at the RPMS – Media Center

Attendees: Gina Woodward, Robert Tucker, Brian Lopes, Chey Perera, Jewel Sanders, Suzanne VanDusen, Nicole Daniel, Tracy Onslow
Parents: Malissa Tucker, Jennifer Achbacher, Angelica Yuengling
Guests: Sandra Graza

Rosa Parks
MIDDLE SCHOOL



1. Call to order by Ms. Woodward at 7:08 pm.
2. Guest Speaker – Ms. Dianne Fisher a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor from the [Safe Harbor Counseling Organization](#) talked about GRIEF and how to help and equip parents and teachers to better help their children and students who are dealing with the loss of a loved one or mentor. The session lasted for approximately 45 minutes including Q & A. A number of training material was also made available to RPMS parents (that will be left with the school counselor)
3. Approval of agenda and 9/13/16 meeting minutes: moved by Ms. Onslow and seconded by Ms. Daniel (subject to edits from Ms. Kartakalis to be incorporated). All in favor.
4. President’s Update – Discussed how to post content to the yahoo group per moderator due to recent issues with communications. Discussed the Community Day Event (Oct 29) sponsored by the SEC-Sherwood Area PTAs, FMS PTA Membership Challenge for PTA membership drive through Nov 15 and the upcoming Basket Ball Game on Nov 18 when the losing school principal will dress in the spirit wear of the winning team at half time. The challenge was accepted. The membership drive will be coordinated through the school as well to reach parents who have not signed up yet.
5. Vice President – Requested ideas for topics of interest for guest speakers. There was interest to discuss the topic ‘High School Choice’ for the December PTA meeting. Noted that the November PTA meeting is cancelled in lieu of the game between FMS and RPMS.
6. Treasurer’s Report – Latest membership numbers at 294 online and 104 via paper, including staff registrations at approx.. 30. The goal for staff registrations at 50.
7. Secretary’s Report – No updates
8. Principal’s Report – over 100 dads participated in the Dads bring your child to school day and interested in future activities. 202 parents at the open house and 11 took the survey. Many students attended the Sherwood HS event on Oct 7. Implementing a change to parent teacher conference. Going forward the event will be a combination of participation by invitation and arena style later in the evening. The set up seems to have worked in other schools and RPMS wants to try it. Oct 24-28 is Say Something about it and Red Ribbon week. Examples include say no to drugs and say no to gun violence. MAP R and MAP M will be distributed on Oct 13. The school is requesting the PTA to assist with communications regarding ongoing issues at the school parking lot. The Clown alias issue was resolved and closed and all information that can be shared have been shared.
9. MCCPTA Delegate – Ms. Woodward read out Ms. Kartsakalis’ email update:
“We did not have enough participation at the meeting to pass any next steps. There was additional discussion on the backlog of capital improvements needed in the county , and trying to find a way to fund it. The Subdivision Staging Policy /next steps team discuss a new proposal that would increase the tax paid by the builder, but we requested more time to review and understand what it really meant. Calendar more then likely will start after labor day and will end on 6/15, there was talk about switching back after next year, so I expect more to come in the next few

months. There will be a meeting for the Choice Study/Compact math on 11/2 at 7PM at the Carver Auditorium , for parents to come and ask questions and learn about the program. I will send out the information as soon as it comes across the list serve. The October PTA membership challenge is all PTA's reporting 300+ members will qualify for a \$25 Giant Gift Cards, along with a grand prize of 5x3 banner. We did discuss the New Safety Policy - Paul Geller did speak to Dr. Smith about the upcoming field trips and timing on new process, there is discussion on exceptions and even discussion on the cost to the parents. I requested that we get an ETA on the exceptions and a clear document on policy that should be follow across the schools. Each school is handling differently which can cause confusion for parents who students in multiple schools. The next delegate meeting will be held on 10/25 at 7:30, the MCCPTA Delegate Presents will have a guest speaking on Student study habits if you would like to join that starts at 6:30."

10. NAACP Rep – Ms. Perera presented the WATCH DOGS proposal on behalf of Ms. Major. Funding of approx. \$465 for start up and \$200-\$300 needed yearly to maintain the program to engage Dads as good role models in the school and could be managed as a partly self-funded initiative through T-shirt sales. There was support from the principal and PTA board.
11. Standing Committee Reports
 - a. Membership – Ms. Daniels has received membership cards (approx. 440) and the PTA must make a payment for at least 75% of projected enrollment by November. Also see joint comments by Treasurer and Membership chair during the Treasurer's report. Discussed clarification on membership counts on paper applications when the application lists only one parent's name. These enrollments to be counted as 1 member/1 vote.
 - b. Volunteer coordinator - Discussed the fall dance, book fair, volunteer training and the availability of a new dedicated yahoo group to coordinate volunteer activities at RPMS.
 - c. Grade Liaisons – No significant updates.
12. Unfinished Business – Interim budget to be finalized and approved by November 2016. A parent in attendance requested clarification regarding the new safety policy on field trips noting that parents who already sought fingerprinting had varied experiences and costs. There was agreement that further clarification was needed from the county on this matter regarding the requirement, costs and service locations.
13. New business - Reflection Program was discussed and deferred to next year. The food drive was discussed and it was determined that the PTA will partner with the SGA on this initiative.
14. Motions proposed/ approved:
 - a. WATCH DOG - proposed by Ms. Onslow and seconded by Ms. Daniels. All in favor.
 - b. Special Ed Chair – discussed a strong interest from a parent from another PTA cluster for this position. RPMS PTA welcomes the interest of all parents and Ms. Sanders suggested that this parent contact the principal of the school to gauge interest of the home school. Ms. VanDusen also noted that there was interest from an RPMS PTA parent. Committee agreed to take up this matter at the next meeting.
15. Next meeting on 12/13/16 and adjournment at 9:18 pm.