

Ridgewood High School Home and School Association

Meeting Minutes for June 8, 2010

In Attendance: Jack Lorenz, Jeff Nyhuis, Ruth Parks, Rola Baddoura, Arlene Sarappo, Ines Bunza, Lynn Granski, Mary Casale, Elizabeth Resnick, Sara Erwin, Karen Lorenz, Michele Lenhard, Liz Gordon, Cathy Shea, Margie McKeon, Jaime Frederick, Jane Stone, Karen Feder, Audrey Fink, Catherine Kim, Bamini Pillai, Rose Boniello, Vicky Herbert, Emily Young Rosenfeld

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. Minutes from the May 11th meeting were submitted and approved.

Principal's Report: Mr. Lorenz reported that finals reviews are underway for next week's testing.

Students and teachers from the Global Learning Conference have arrived and are attending classes with our students.

Sophomore Victoria has won the prestigious ICE Award from Johnson controls. Her environmental project was the only winner in the state.

The Senior Prom was enjoyed by all who attended, and the weekend proceeded without incident.

Preparations are going full blast for Graduation on the 23rd.

Girls Lacrosse Coach Carla Mixon was named Coach of the Year, as she led her team to RHS's first ever State Championship!

One hundred and nine students have been inducted into the National Honor Society.

The District will be sending out a survey for parents in the coming days. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey, as it will help administrators make key decisions regarding our children's education in the future.

Seniors have filled out their "senior survey". They will be re-surveyed in 18 months, and again in 5 years. This new tracking model will allow RHS to better guide our students to success.

Guidance Report: Vice Principal for Guidance Jeff Nyhuis reported that complete results of the Senior Survey may be found online through Navience. The percentage of graduates who will be attending a four year college is 88.6%, with 4.5% attending a two year school.

RHS will not be hosting summer school on campus this year, but will instead be partnering with Bergen Community College. Our teachers will be teaching both remedial and credit classes, as well as several enrichment courses at the BCC campus. Details may be found on the RHS web site.

Preliminary course selection letters for the 2010/2011 year will be mailed shortly. Please review these with your child, and contact the Guidance Office before the end of the year for problems/changes. There will be staff in the Guidance Office over the summer if you still need assistance. Final schedules with teacher assignments will be mailed in August.

The proposed state requirement for a Personal Finance Class has been postponed.

The digital Portfolio Program for students is still being worked on, so implementation is on hold for now.

Class supply lists are being updated and will be available online by summer.

Faculty Report: Ruth Parks, Faculty Liaison, thanked the HSA for providing refreshments at the faculty meeting.

As the fourth quarter comes to a close and exams are getting closer, Mrs. Parks encouraged parents to reach out to their student's teachers by e mail to keep in touch.

Board of Ed Report: BOE member Michele Lenhard reported that bids are coming in for several of the Referendum projects. Many are coming in under estimated costs.

Recently, Mr. Lorenz and 24 teachers participated in a Virtual Learning Community staff development project at Kean University.

Many members of the community have been asking the BOE to take a formal stance in regards to the Valley Hospital building project. Ms. Lenhard reiterated that the BOE will only be concerned with the safety of our students, and will not be commenting on the scope of the project. Should the construction project be approved, the BOE will work with Valley to ensure the safety and well being of every child.

President's Report: HSA President Rola Baddoura introduced Catherine Kim, outgoing VP of the Korean Parent's Association. The Association has been in existence for 12 years, and services 180 students, including 41 graduating seniors. They are very active in the production of the Asian Festival every year, and hold an annual Teacher Luncheon. The Association awards two scholarships each year, one to a Korean student, and one to a non-Korean student.

Mrs. Kim made a presentation of a gift of \$1000 from the Association to the HSA.

Rola made a heartfelt tribute to RHS parent and Village council member Annie Zusy who passed away earlier this month.

Rola thanked Mr. Lorenz for his open and friendly relationship with RHS parents; Mr. Nyhuis and Mr. Pizzuto for all their efforts for our children; and all Guidance Counselors, teachers, secretaries, and grade administrators for their continuing support for parents and students.

Rola thanked the Board members and all HSA Committee Chairs for hard work through the year.

Vice President's Report: HSA Vice President Arlene Sarappo thanked the class reps for their help this year.

Communication chair Lynn Granski thanked Linda Willk and Sara Erwin for their efforts in getting all parent e mail addresses available to the HSA for the first time, as well as establishing a web page (www.rhshsa.org) for the HSA.

Treasurer's Report: Ines Bunza reminded all committee chairs that the books must be closed out on June 30, and to submit all receipts and expenses before then.

Each school HSA will receive a gift of \$600 from the Federated HSA.

Project Graduation: Work sessions at the "secret location" are well under way. If you are free to help out, in any way, please let PG Chairs Debbie Castello and Missy McLaughlin know.

BF will be open to the community on June 23 from 5 pm to 11 pm, before the graduates arrive at midnight. Junior parents are needed to act as "watchdogs" during that time, as well as serving on the "wrecking ball" crew on Thursday June 24. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lisa Gible.

Ridgewood Education Foundation: REF President Liz Gordon reported that tickets are still available for the Barclay's Golf Tournament through the REF. REF will receive a portion of the sale.

There is still time to honor one of your child's teachers with a gift in their name to the REF Teacher Appreciation Program.

REF is looking to recruit new members for the Board. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Liz Gordon.

Jamboree: Producer Elizabeth Resnick reported that Jamboree presented its 65th annual show this year! Over \$100,000 in scholarship money will be awarded this year.

Each Class purchased a page in the ad journal, with surplus revenue being donated to the respective PG accounts. This year, PG10 will receive \$830; class of 2011 \$460; class of 2012 \$190; and class of 2013 \$520.

The meeting was then handed over to new HSA President Arlene Sarappo, who expressed a wish to be able to follow in the very accomplished footsteps of outgoing President Rola Baddoura, and to continue to have the amazing support of the RHS parents.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Vicky Herbert