

RIDGEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 3, 2012

In Attendance: Basil Pizzuto, Jaime Frederick, Tracy Autera, Carol Olson, Lynn Knight, Beth Holmes, David Zrike, Inez Bunza, Elizabeth Jastrzebska, Shari Seroka, Mari Malloy, Ruth Parks, Loren Mularz, Joseph Carey, Amy Bourque, Sean McCooe, Jocelyn Dreier, Dennis O'Neill, Catherine B., Riley C., Annette Testa, Jane Stone, Lindsey Barclay, Gina McDade, Lynn Granski, Vicky Herbert, Jenny Rabinowitz, Suzanne Golabek, Dr. Fishbein, Gina Damasco, Bob Hutton, Vince Loncto, Jim Morgan, Sheila Brogan, Michele Lenhard, Christina Krause, Gary Hall, Regina Botsford

Welcome and Approval of Minutes: Jaime Frederick called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. and welcomed all attendees. The minutes from the February 14, 2012 meeting were submitted and approved. Jaime announced the hiring of the new RHS principal – Dr. Thomas Gorman. Dr. Gorman is a Ridgewood High School graduate and Village resident. He is currently the principal of Westwood High School.

Introduction of Board of Education (BOE) Candidates: Jaime Frederick introduced the four BOE Candidates – Gina Damasco, Bob Hutton, Vince Loncto and Jim Morgan. Each candidate gave a three-minute presentation about his or her backgrounds and campaign platforms.

Budget Presentation: Dr. Fishbein presented the proposed budget for the 2012-2013 school year. The budget vote will be April 17, 2012.

Principal's Report:

In Jeff Nyhuis' absence, Basil Pizzuto gave his report. Basil provided the statistics on the number of seniors taking the SAT and the ACT exams. Of the 396 seniors, 355 took the SATs, 189 took the ACTs and 169 took both. Also, this spring approximately 900 AP exams will be administered to approximately 400 students.

The Class of 2013 took the High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) exams on March 6-8. A state monitor arrived unannounced to review RHS test procedures. No issues were noted and RHS received compliments on the testing administration.

Basil Pizzuto reported that Spirit Week would be held the week of April 23 and that student elections would be held later in the spring. More details would be provided during the student report.

Basil discussed the recent arrest of three RHS students on drug possession. Two of the students were freshman and the other a sophomore. These students have been suspended, recommended for counseling and will be subject to random drug testing until they graduate. There appears to be a rise in drug use amongst these two grades. RHS administration is committed to eliminating such drug activity at RHS.

Faculty Report:

Ruth Parks thanked Dr. Fishbein for his efforts in trying to obtain additional parking spots for the RHS faculty. Although he was not initially successful with the Village Council, district and RHS administration will continue to work to increase the parking spots for faculty.

Student Report: Catherine B. and Riley C. provided more detail on the upcoming Spirit Week. The week will include: Neon Monday, Team Tuesday, Tropical Wednesday, Preppy Thursday and Color Wars on Friday. There will also be a pep rally on Friday to celebrate spring sports.

On April 27, there will be a dance hosted by the junior class for the senior class.

Board of Education Report: Michele Lenhard reported on the following three topics:

- 1) Principal's search: Michele echoed Jaime's comments concerning the hiring of Dr. Thomas Gorman.
- 2) Bridge: The BOE has received a feasibility study from LAN Associates on design options for the bridge that connects the RHS athletic fields. The study contains several scenarios for the bridge. A copy of the study is contained on the district website. The BOE is awaiting final permit approval from the DEP for repairs to get the bridge re-opened. In the meantime, the BOE approved a vendor to perform these repairs at the April 2 meeting.
- 3) Summer School: At their April 2 meeting, the BOE was presented the economic analysis related to opening summer school at RHS in 2012.

EXECUTIVE BOARD UPDATES:

A) President's Report:

Jaime Frederick reported site visits related to the Learning Commons have occurred. There will be more to report at future meetings on this topic.

Jaime also shared that she has been attending many of the wonderful cultural events at RHS (i.e., The Asian Festival, The Drowsy Chaperone, The Project Graduation Fashion Show). She enjoyed each event very much.

B) Vice President:

Tracy Autera had no items to report this month.

C) Treasurer:

Lynn Knight presented the financial statements.

D) Communications:

Beth Holmes had no items to report.

E) Development:

David Zrike stated the HSA would be conducting a phone-a-thon/telethon on April 30, May 1 and May 2, 2012. Last year's event raised \$55,000 which was used to purchase microscopes. If you are interested in volunteering for the phone-a-thon, contact David.

Backwoods:

David reported plans for a trip to Great Adventure on April 28, a May chalk drawing event and a year-end dance on June 8. There may be a parent social on June 9.

COMMITTEE AND LIASON UPDATES

A) Class Reports:

Class of 2012: (Lindsey Barclay): The Project Graduation Fashion Show took place on March 25. Over 140 students and administrators modeled outfits for the 480 attendees. The event was fun filled and very successful.

The Class of 2012 is also raffling an iPad. There will only be 100 tickets sold at \$10 each. They are also selling flip-flops.

Class of 2013: Jenny Rabinowitz thanked Tara Callaghan for volunteering to be the co-class representative. She also thanked all the juniors and their parents for volunteering at the Project Graduation Fashion Show.

Jenny and Tara will be coordinating the Junior Class support for upcoming graduation events. Finally, they are also selling flip-flops.

Class of 2014: no report

Class of 2015: no report

B) Hospitality: Gina McDade will distribute an email for sign-ups for the next faculty meeting.

C) Nominating: Lynn Granski is working on the HSA Executive Board for the 2012-13 school year. Anyone interested in volunteering for a position should contact her.

There was no **Other Business** and the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

The next meeting is Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectively submitted by Carol Olson