

Minutes

Ridgewood High School Home and School Association
January 26, 2007

Call to Order – Beth Jorgensen welcomed members and guests. Guests included faculty and students from the Art and Design Department at RHS.

Secretary's Report – The minutes from the November 21 meeting were posted on the website and forwarded to HSA members present at that meeting, and copies were handed out on January 26, 2007. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes from the November 21 meeting.

Treasurer's Report – The financial reports for November and December were presented. Dues are still coming in.

Guest Speakers and Presentation – A presentation by the Art and Design department was hosted by Mr. Daniel DaSilva, teacher and Ms. Denise Sivilich, Department Head. They discussed the philosophy of the department, which includes the idea that art is another method of communication. They also expressed their appreciation for a grant from the Ridgewood Education Foundation, which allowed the department to purchase a large kiln. HSA members got to tour the art room and speak to several students who had work on display. Students Marya Goodman and Miriam Grossman displayed jewelry they had designed and created, and Catherine Zrike displayed her pottery creations.

Also, the art gallery, which displays a variety of student work, is always open, and parents are encouraged to come by and take a look.

Principal's Report – Jack Lorenz reported that RHS recently completed state monitoring report, which takes place every five years.

Also, the results of the social norms marketing survey are back. The results indicate that RHS is a prime candidate for social norms marketing. The campaign will begin soon.

Graduation ceremonies will begin at 5 p.m. this year, instead of 5:30 p.m., to allow graduates time to get ready for the planned post-graduation dinner and activities.

Security personnel at RHS is being increased from one to four, with one female. There will be two security personnel present in the morning, and two present in the afternoon.

The Board of Education has approved an assessment of the high school building. A report will be done assessing the condition of the building, and it is hoped the report will be available in late spring.

There will be a distinguished alumni wall at RHS, where the display cases are now. The purpose of the wall is to recognize alumni who have distinguished themselves through their achievements in their fields or contributions to society. The wall will serve as an inspiration to RHS students. The school will begin to accept nominations soon.

The bells in the cupola will be ringing again soon!!

Guidance Report – On January 25, there will be a meeting for 8th grade parents whose children will be attending RHS in the fall. Middle school counselors will be coming to RHS to talk with guidance department about placements and course offerings. Then RHS guidance counselors will visit the middle schools to talk with the 8th graders.

This Thursday, January 18, mid-term exams begin.

Terra Nova Scores went out to 9th and 10th graders. The school will be evaluating the data to improve curriculum.

The Family Connection Naviance scheduler will be available online in February.

Seniors who applied to colleges early have heard, and all senior college applications are now done. For juniors, there will be a parent meeting in February, and then students will begin meeting with their guidance counselors.

President's Report – The nominating committee will begin working on a slate of candidates for next year's board, so if anyone would like to discuss volunteer opportunities, please contact Beth Jorgensen.

Jamboree – Jamboree tickets for "Into the World", which runs from February 8-10 at BF, are on sale online. Also, you can buy class page ads online.

Webmaster – Reminder, use Adobe Acrobat reader to read newsletter.

Curriculum Committee – The first meeting will be held Tuesday, January 30, 2007.

Sr. Class Representatives/ Project Graduation – Fashion Show is scheduled for Sunday, March 11, 2007.

Jr. Class Representatives – The junior class is having a kickoff party to start Project Graduation 2008. The Panico Cutoff will take place in April. If junior parents want to contribute \$10 for class page in Jamboree program, please contact representative.

Sophomore and Freshman Class Representatives – Parents who would like to contribute \$10 for class page in Jamboree program, please contact representative.

Vice-President's Report – Debra attended the Ridgewood Education Foundation meeting, and encouraged everyone to consider becoming a donor.

Faculty Representative – When considering a language program at RHS, please consider the German program. It is a small program with a successful exchange program. There is an accelerated option.

New Business – The Harlem Wizards basketball game fundraiser is completely sold out.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Attendance for January 16 Meeting

Beth Jorgensen
Vickie Hamilton
Deborah Edghill
Cheryl Alterman
Eileen Haynes
Jaime Frederick
Hema Chaurasia
Tracy Autera
Laurie Goodman
Debbie Castello
Joanne Stolfo

Bonnie Chalek
Wendy Wong
Ruth Parks
Jack Lorenz
Margaret Loonam
Denise Sivulich
Caroline Barr
Elizabeth Resnick
Lynette Pinckney