

Ridgewood High School Home and School Association
Meeting Minutes for January 12, 2010

In Attendance: Jack Lorenz, Rola Baddoura, Jeff Nyhuis, Arlene Sarappo, Lynn Granski, Tina Telesco, Ines Bunza, Ruth Parks, Karen Lorenz, Michele Lenhard, Khanh Vo, Laureen Bitzer, Carol Rapaport, Jane Stone, Belinda Kisela Grilli, Susan Wilkinson, Joanne Delaney, Sally Felsenstein, Terry Seibold, Beth Holmes, Kathy Dickerson, Andrea Rademacher, Diane Nathanson, Carla Felder, Annalise Marcus, Karen Feder, Erin Ades, Laurie Myones, Cristy Sippel, Jason Rosenfeld, Evan Kaminer, Lynn Maltz, Kathy Rekucki, Linda Weisberger, Catherine Chriss, Lisa Kim, Debbe Castello, Theresa Anovick, Elizabeth Shadbolt, Jaime Frederick, Joyce Suss

Welcome and Approval of Minutes: Rola Baddoura, HSA President, welcomed everyone to the meeting. The minutes from the November 10, 2009 meeting were approved.

Principal's Report: Mr. Lorenz said that all classes were preparing for mid-term exams the week of January 21. There will be no PE classes for the 11th and 12th grades; the 9th and 10th grades will meet for only one PE class that week, giving all students one extra study period.

RHS Social Studies teacher John Domville was recently named VFW Teacher of the Year. Congratulations, Mr Domville!

Due to severe budget shortfall projections, Mr. Lorenz is looking at a possible \$500,000 to \$700,000 cut of the High School budget. This will be done with as little classroom impact as possible.

The new SKYWARD program is slowly being implemented in the district. It will be fully operational by the end of the year, enabling both students and parents to be better connected with the school.

Freshmen will be the first class to be involved with the new Digital Portfolio program, which will soon be a State requirement. By the end of senior year, each student will have a complete digital record of their work at the High School, which will be able to follow them to college.

RHS is continuing to work with Bergen Community College on dual enrollment programs which will enable RHS students to receive credits from BCC for classes taken at the High School. Soon, students will be able to leave the HS with upwards of 36 college credits.

Guidance Report: Jeff Nyhuis, Director of Guidance, said that the HS would be hosting the 1/23 session of the SAT and the 2/6 session of the ACT.

There will be a parent meeting for current 8th graders on January 20, and a meeting for 11th grade parents on February 11.

To date, the Guidance department has filed 2497 college application for 410 seniors.

Students will make their course selections for the 2010/2011 school year on SKYWARD this spring.

Mr. Nyhuis introduced the heads of the RAHP (Lucy Fern), AHLISA (Mike Yannone) and American Studies (Mark Ferreri) programs. Each group outlined the programs and

requirements for acceptance. Freshmen will be informed of the programs during Freshman Focus. All applications are due before February break.

Faculty Report: Ruth Parks, Faculty liaison, thanked all the parents and the community for their support in passing the Referendum.

Board of Education Report: Michele Lenhard reported that the BOE is moving forward with all of their goals and projects for the year. They have begun the arduous budget process, and will be holding meetings about the budget in the coming months. Ridgewood has decided not to participate in the federally funded "Race to the Top".

Project Graduation: The PG10 Fashion Show has been scheduled for March 28 at the Crossroads Sheraton in Mahwah. Donations of basket items for the auction would be greatly appreciated!

President's Report: Rola Baddoura, HSA President invited everyone to attend the Harlem Wizards basketball game (a major Federated fundraiser) on January 29. Jack Lorenz and Jeff Nyhuis will be representing RHS on the court.

Super Science Saturday will take place on March 6.

The Junior Class raised over \$11,000 for PG11 from their dinner dance in November.

Treasurer's Report: Ines Bunza, HSA Treasurer, presented the financial reports for the month.

Development Committee: Development Chair Tina Telesco and her committee have started sending out thank you notes and tax info to everyone who contributed to the 2009/2010 Development Campaign. It is not too late to contribute if you haven't already!

Jamboree: Rehearsals are in full swing, and all are encouraged to attend one of the performances from February 4–6. A fun time is guaranteed!

Hospitality: Sally Felsenstein and Maureen Paternoster are asking for volunteers to provide baked goods for the 2/1 Faculty meeting.

REF: REF President Liz Gordon reported that the REF will receive \$12,000 from the Barclay's Golf Tournament. This year's tournament will be back at Ridgewood Country Club. The REF is once again sponsoring Super Science Saturday in conjunction with Valley Hospital. Spring Grant applications are due January 21.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted , Vicky Herbert