

Ridgewood Home and School Association

Minutes for June 9, 2009

In Attendance – Maryam Alsop, Theresa Anovick, Rola Baddoura, Julie Beites, Marianne Bennett, Ines Bunza, Debbie Castello, Catherine Chriss, Sara Erwin, Sally Ann Felsenstein, Audrey Fink, Jaime Frederick, Laurie Goodman, Lynn Granski, Vicky Herbert, Beth Holmes, Jack Lorenz, Karen Lorenz, Leesa Manderano, Missy McLaughlin, Patty Mullen, Jeff Nyhuis, Ruth Parks, Maureen Paternoster, Basil Pizzuto, Carol Rapaport, Elizabeth Resnick, Cheryl Sabath, Arlene Sarappo, Elizabeth Shadbolt, Tara Smith, Sheri Sussman, Linda Tarzian, Tina Telesco, Linda Willk, Wendy Wong,

Welcome and Approval of Minutes – Elizabeth Resnick, outgoing President
The meeting was called to order by Elizabeth at 7:30 pm. The minutes of the May 12 meeting were approved as they have been posted on the RHS HSA website with the following change: Treasurer Wendy Wong clarified the fact that each class would receive \$1000 in funds towards their project graduation.

Membership Vote – 2009/2010 Executive Board – Secretary and Development

Nominating Committee Chair Carol Rapaport presented the nominations of Tina Telesco – Development Chair and Vicky Herbert – Secretary, to the Membership for election. Each was approved to the Executive Board.

Final Comments/ Outgoing Executive Board – Elizabeth Resnick, HSA President
Elizabeth thanked the members of the outgoing HSA Executive Board for all of their service during the past year. She also presented gifts and kind words to Principal Jack Lorenz and his Administrative Assistant Julie Beites, Assistant Principal Jeff Nyhuis, and Assistant Principal Basil Pizzuto.

Elizabeth then turned the meeting over to incoming HSA President Rola Baddoura.

Introduction of 2009/2010 Executive Board – Rola Baddoura, incoming President

President: Rola Baddoura
1st Vice President: Jack Lorenz
2nd Vice President: Arlene Sarappo
Treasurer: Ines Bunza
Secretary: Vicky Herbert
Communication: Lynn Granski
Development: Tina Telesco
Sr. Class/Project Graduation: Debbie Castello; Missy McLaughlin
Jr. Class Reps: Lisa Gobble; Cristy Sippel; Beth Freed
Soph. Class Reps: Audrey Fink; Margaret Kelly
Fresh. Class Reps: Yvonne Francis; Beth Holmes
Class Financial Coordinator: Linda Zwyhun
Directory Design: Linda Willk
Directory Distribution: Rosemary Chersi; Karen Lorenz
Gift Committee: All Executive Board members
Hospitality: Sally Felsenstein; Maureen Paternoster
Nominating: Jaime Frederick
RHS Cares: Kate Douglass

Board of Ed Liasons: Laurie Goodman; Michele Lenhard
Curriculum Committee: Maryam Alsop; Lynn Knight; Cheryl Sabbath; Tara Smith
Friends of Music:
Jamboree: Dixie Taylor
Learning Services: Suzanne Russo
REF: Maryam Alsop; Liz Gordon
Safety: Rose Boniello; Dan Schwalm
Student Rep:
Youth Center: Nancy Bigos

Board of Education Update – Laurie Goodman, BOE Liaison

There will be a Board of Education meeting on June 15 to review the upcoming Referendum and proposed projects. The meeting will be available via live webcast for those unable to attend. The District MIS is hard at work on the development of the new District website. They are looking for volunteers to test-run the site on June 16. Please contact Laurie if you are interested. Mrs. Parks asked Laurie about the recent audio problems with the broadcasts of the BOE meetings. Laurie indicated that the Board was aware of the problem, and that it had been fixed.

Principal's Report – Jack Lorenz

Mr. Lorenz thanked Elizabeth and the outgoing Board for their service during the past year. The Senior Prom week-end was a very successful, elegant, and most of all, safe event. The RHS Latin Team was the winner of the State competition. Four RHS students won awards at the BCC writing contest. The Administration continues preparations for Graduation. There will be a change in policy this year regarding inclement weather: there is no longer a contingency for an indoor ceremony in case of bad weather. Students and parents will instead be asked to move inside and wait (patiently and hopefully) for the weather to clear enough to continue the ceremony outdoors. Mr. Lorenz thanked the Senior Class for setting such a positive and active tone on campus this year, and the HSA parents for their dedication and commitment to the students.

Vice Principal for Guidance Report – Jeff Nyhuis

The results of the Senior Survey have been tallied. The full report can be viewed on Naviance. Mr. Nyhuis reiterated the importance and usefulness of the Naviance site. It is an important tool for both parents and students.

Vice Principal for Admin./Student Services – Basil Pizzuto

Mr. Pizzuto thanked Elizabeth and the outgoing Board for their service during the past year. He emphasized the importance of parental input in the decision making process. There are several students with confirmed cases of the flu in the school, but it has not had any adverse affects on the student population.

President's Report – Rola Baddoura

Rola reported that the Federated HSA will be launching a town-wide “anti-idling” campaign this year to discourage the wasteful habit at all of the schools. There is some question as to whether the “Ready, Set, Relax” program will be continued going forward. Funding for the program has run out, and no new funding has been obtained yet.

Treasurer's Report – Ines Bunza

Ines requested that the HSA purchase a laptop to be used by the Treasurer to keep all the books and accounts. This will be passed down to each incoming Treasurer. A motion to make the \$578 purchase was made, and the membership voted to approve the motion.

Faculty Liaison – Ruth Parks

Mrs. Parks thanked the HSA on behalf of the entire Faculty for their continued support, and stressed how much the monthly breakfasts were appreciated.

As Mrs. Antonellis will be leaving RHS next year, there will need to be an additional Faculty Liaison appointed for the coming year.

Project Graduation – Debbie Castello, Missy McLaughlin

Work on Project Graduation 2010 has already begun! There will be an e mail sent soon to begin recruiting chair people and solicit suggestions for a theme.

Project Graduation 2009 is asking for volunteers to help on Graduation day and at the festivities at BF that night. They are especially in need of people to help with wrecking crew the following day. Fun times are promised, and remember, many hands make light work!

Legacy Book Program – Lynn Granski

Speaking for Donna Antonellis, Lynn indicated that participation in this program was down this year, and reminded everyone that it would make a wonderful graduation gift for a student, or a gift to honor a teacher. Please see Mrs. Antonellis if you would like a form to take part in this valuable program.

RHS/HSA Student Directory – 2009/2010 - Lynn Granski

Parents will be able to review and make changes to the information to be included in the Directory using Community Pass this year. The information will be posted some time in August, and you will have a 2 week time frame in which to either confirm, change or opt-out. September 13 will be the last day to opt-out of the Directory. While you can make changes using Community Pass, you will not be able to pay HSA dues on the site. A separate check will still need to be sent.

Rola thanked Linda Willk for all of her very hard work on the Directory this year and for the coming year.

Ridgewood Education Foundation – Maryam Alsop

The REF will once again be fielding volunteers for the Barclay's Golf Tournament. We received a \$25,000 donation from the Barclay's for volunteering last year, so if you would like to participate in this exciting event this year, you may sign up on the REF website.

The REF will be sponsoring a Dog Show in conjunction with the Ridgewood Chamber of Commerce on October 18. Save the date, and look for upcoming announcements about this fun event!

The REF will continue to co-sponsor the very popular College Speaker Series next year.

Grant applications for the Fall 2009 cycle are due by September 1.

Curriculum Committee – Maryam Alsop, Cheryl Sabath

The District has adopted the Envision Math Program for all of the Elementary schools beginning next year. They feel it has a balance between both the “new” and “traditional” math philosophies. The program will begin in K-2. The Staff has already begun training.

Hospitality – Sally Felsenstein, Maureen Paternoster

Sally and Maureen need volunteers to provide refreshments for the Back-to-School Faculty breakfast in September. Please contact them if you can help in providing food or drinks.

The President adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8th in the RHS Library/Media Center at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Vicky Herbert