

MINUTES

Ridgewood High School Home and School Association
November 21, 2006

Call to Order—Beth Jorgensen welcomed members and guests, faculty and students who will participate in a Social Studies Department presentation.

Secretary's Report—A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes from the October 17 meeting, and the motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report—Cheryl Alterman presented the monthly financial report. A mailing will go out regarding unpaid dues.

Guests Speakers—Ms. Jane Blakely, area supervisor for Social Studies and English, introduced faculty members John Domville and Mark Ferrari, and several of their students who will demonstrate a performance based assessment model used by History classes. The assessment model requires students to prepare a diary for a person experiencing life during World War II. Students who completed the project last year shared their diaries with the HSA audience.

Guidance Report—Peg Loonam reported that a new course catalog is being prepared. She is busy reading college recommendations written by the guidance counselors. She and the guidance counselors work together to make sure each and every recommendation is as effective as possible.

The new auto-dialer and attendance system is working. In answer to a question, Peg explained that the new policy is that four “lates” equals one absence, which stresses the importance of being on time.

April 19 is the next college series presentation for parents.

President's Report—Beth Jorgensen reported on attending the Federated meeting. The search company hired to find school superintendent candidates has prepared a survey to determine what residents want in a superintendent. Also, the Board of Education will be soliciting public input at its November 29 meeting.

New on the HSA website is a section describing things sponsored by the HSA. Take a look and see what HSA helps to fund.

Parent Representative to Garden State Coalition of Schools—Michele Lenhard spoke at a press conference in Trenton regarding the lack of state school funding and the effect that has on a district like Ridgewood.

Board of Education—Member Joseph Vallerini discussed and made available a handout which summarizes the Joint Committee Recommendations pertaining to school districts. The Recommendations include 98 points from four committees. A copy of the recommendations is available from the Board of Education.

Vice President's Report—Deborah Edghill attended a statewide student music program in Atlantic City and reported that our district was well represented. Also Debbie Costello and Nina Vaccaro put on a Halloween breakfast for the faculty, and it was a big success.

Senior Class Representatives—Tracy Autera reported that they are busy collecting dues and baby pictures for Project Graduation. They are also selling beanies and RHS throws. If interested, please contact Angela Radossi.

Junior Class Representatives—Marge Geraghty and Sally Felsenstein reported that they are selling cutting boards at the Ridge School boutique. They are also selling flannel wear.

Sophomore Class Representatives—Lisa Rogers reported that they will be selling retail and food coupon pages. They are also working on the community services fundraiser, where parents sponsor kids doing community service.

Freshman Class Representatives—Dixie Taylor reported that they are busy collecting email addresses.

Newsletter—Anne Malaspina announced that December 7 is the deadline for submissions to newsletter.

Jamboree—Debbie Costello reported that they still need people to help behind the scenes. Also, they are working on the class page advertisements.

Webmaster—Joanne Stolfo reported that the website is growing. There are class tabs now, and there is a “Fundraisers at a glance” section.

Old Business—The Keep Kids Alive campaign continues to be successful. The website has the most inquiries from Ridgewood residents.

New Business—Federated has a fundraiser January 19, featuring the Harlem Wizards.

Sean McCooe asked if there was a place to discuss or get updated on local political issues. Several people offered suggestions,

Meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Attendance List – November 21, 2006

Ellen Cramer

Wendy Wong
Nina Vaccaro
Cheryl Alterman
Vickie Hamilton
Deborah Edghill
Marge Geraghty
Sally Ann Felsenstein
Tracy Autera
Carol Rapaport
Dixie Taylor
Lisa Rogers
Michele Lenhard
Joseph Vallerini
Beth Jorgensen
Joanne Stolfo
Sal Stolfo
Eileen Haynes
Sophia Marcyes
Donna Antonellis
Margaret Loonam