

## Ridgewood High School Home and School Association Meeting Minutes for November 10, 2009

**In Attendance** - Rola Baddoura, Jack Lorenz, Jeff Nyhuis, Basil Pazzuto, Arlene Sarappo, Ines, Bunza, Lynn Granski, Tina Telesco, Vicky Herbert, Heidi Hurley, Jane Lum, Lauren Schechter, Jerroo Ranji, Rose Boniello, Carolyn Leoung, Ockjoo Baek, Jaime Frederick, Joyce Suss, Laurie Goodman, Catherine Chriss, Stephen Frank, Beth Freed, Ed Hannon, Akemi Hannon, Ed Fischer, Sean Noble, Tori Grilli, Dorothy Koshi, Brian McSwigan, Alice Lo, Robert Kravitz, Dixie Taylor, Carol Rapaport, Beth Holmes, Traci DuBois, Heather Abric, Audrey Fink, Sandi Derrico, Chris Derrico, Mark, Maltz, Cy Caine, Yongpeng Xue, Carl Legg, Hannah Cohan, Kelly Boylan, Sun Hye Kim, Nancy Merck, Barbara Cohan, Ruth Parks, Cheryl Sabbath

**Welcome and Approval of Minutes** – Rola Baddoura, HSA President, welcomed everyone to the meeting. The minutes from the October 6 meeting were approved.

**Principal's Report** – Mr. Lorenz very eloquently addressed the tragic death of an RHS student. The RAHP Academy has received the highest designation in the country of "Model Academy". Students were preparing for the upcoming Maroon and White Recital.

The "new" Naviance site will be in use starting on November 15, 2009. It will be easier to understand and navigate.

The Student Council is participating in "Soles for Souls", collecting shoes to be sent to Darfur.

Mr. Lorenz is happy to announce that all Teacher supply lists are now available on the HSA website.

**Guidance Report** – Vice Principal for Guidance Jeff Nyhuis informed the group that beginning this Spring, course selection would be made through the new SKYWARD program. In addition to class lists, it will be a valuable resource for parents, as grades will also be posted on the site.

Mr. Nyhuis explained the major differences in the Prep/Honor/AP classes. Students are eligible to take advanced classes beginning in sophomore year. In addition to these choices, RHS has an arrangement with Bergen Community College in which several classes qualify RHS students to receive college credit through BCC. All information is available from the Guidance office, or on the School website.

Guidance Counselors and teachers will start speaking with the students in the New Year about course selections for the 2010/2011 school year. Preliminary course requests will be distributed in April.

**Student Representatives** - The Student Council Representatives reported that the Fall Pep Rally was a huge success.

Student Council is sponsoring a Thanksgiving Food Drive, and will purchase holiday gifts for five needy area families.

The Student Council will also be sponsoring a Winter Wonderland Dance.

**Citizen's Committee** – Tina Telesco and Laurie Goodman answered questions from the group concerning the Bond Referendum, and reiterated the importance of its passing.

**President's Report** – HSA President Rola Baddoura, informed the group that there will be no HSA general meeting in December. The next meeting will be January 12, 2010.

Rola was very pleased to accept a very generous donation, in the amount of \$1000, from the Korean Parents Association for the Development Campaign. She thanked them for their continued support.

**Vice President's Report** – Arlene Sarappo, HSA Vice President, is continuing to work with all the Class Representatives on communication and fundraising coordination.

**Treasurer's Report** – Ines Bunza requests that all committee chairs submit their expense reports; she wants to make sure all paperwork is organized in case there is an audit

**Development Committee** – Tina Telesco and her committee have received many donations to date for the purchase of smart boards for several classrooms. Families who have not yet contributed are still welcome to!

**Vice Principal for Student Affairs** – Basil Pizzuto is working with the Student Council on the Holiday food drive and gift donations.

He encourages parents to help their children make the choice to get involved in only those school activities in which they are genuinely interested, rather than trying to “beef up” a college application resume.

There will be no more daily announcements, so both students and parents are encouraged to check the school website regularly to keep informed of activities.

**Directory** – The directories have been distributed, with a huge thank you to all who volunteered with this huge undertaking!

**Membership** – To date, 776 families have paid membership dues, with 888 still not participating. It's never too late to send your dues and purchase a directory!

**Junior Class Raffle Dinner** – The dinner will take place on November 20. The cost is \$100/couple, and includes a dinner for two.

**Faculty Report** – Ruth Parks thanked the HSA on behalf of the Faculty for the lovely Halloween breakfast!

**Hospitality** – Maureen Paternoster and Sally Felsenstein are looking for volunteers to help with refreshments for the December 7 Faculty meeting.

**Ridgewood Education Foundation** – REF President Liz Gordon said the Foundation will be celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. You can find more information about the group and it's history at [www.ridgewoodeducationfoundation.org](http://www.ridgewoodeducationfoundation.org).

A total of nine grants were awarded to several schools in October.

**Jamboree** – Work is well under way on the upcoming performance. It's not too late to sign up and help out this fun group and help them award scholarships to local students.

Each grade level will have a class page in the Jamboree Journal. You can sign up this year on line using the link through the Jamboree website. (Link through our site, [www.rhshsa.org](http://www.rhshsa.org).)

**PG 10** – Debbie Castello, PG 10 Chair, thanked the Korean Parents Association for helping with vital translation services.

The Goffle Brook Farm Fundraiser is on-going.

The President adjourned the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

The next RHS HSA Meeting will be Tuesday, January 12, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the RHS Library/Media Center.

Respectfully submitted by Vicky Herbert