

Richmond Waldorf School  
PA Meeting Minutes

February 02, 2016

The following are the meeting minutes for February of the 2015-2016 school year:  
Attendance- 13 total

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- Introduction by Co PA Moderators Allison Thurber and Susannah Meyer.
- Opening community verse
- Approve meeting Minutes: The January minutes were approved.
- Class Rep updates:
  - Acorn: playing outside in the snow, getting ready for Valentine's day. Snow circles and winter circles.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> grade:
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade: Finished up math block, seasons and months of the year, telling time on clock, 4 and 5 multiplication block, working on a play.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade: just started strings, getting ready for the school play, Noah's Ark, in a measurement block, and will have a Valentine's bake sale, working on other fundraising initiatives.
  - 4<sup>th</sup> grade: fractions, in  $\frac{1}{4}$ 's, False Cape trip in first week in May, will go back to Jamestown to see the settlement, finished Norse mythology and will next go into math block.
  - 5<sup>th</sup> grade: just finished the play
  - 6<sup>th</sup> grade: last part of geometry block, had class meeting about students receiving grades, book report due, start Astronomy block next, there will be a caving overnight trip to go with their minerology block, working on class play, will have a Valentine's day buffet on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - 7<sup>th</sup> grade: just finished study of exploration and South America, in the middle of book report and just turned in outline, working on their class play, Alice in wonderland, will then move into the Renaissance, received their grades (which count now). Had class meeting and found that Roberto will teach the chemistry block when that comes around.
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade: all high school now, talking about their grades and where they are applying, in their US history block, project due in late February, studying Jamestown, will have class meeting tomorrow, making pajamas in handwork, finished Waldorf bench, Russian students are preparing their own lines for the play (in Russian). The play is in April.
- Update from Open House and Waldorf Through the Grades:
  - Rachael shared the success from last Saturday's open house, obtained some commitments from those present. They were able to go up to classrooms to see the work, child care was arranged which was very successful for the parents to focus, seemed to be an open event, very positive. Families appreciated to hear from the parents and their thoughts. Middle school open house would be beneficial; to demonstrate what we can do just for middle school (suggested by Kim Washburn).
  - Waldorf through the grades:

- Was very successful, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, had a lot of food, had teachers talk about each grades, then demonstration by Roberto, didn't have a lot of early childhood (maybe communicate more next time for this group. Roberto felt it might be better to have a joint early childhood class meeting a little later. The thought was that the early childhood parents felt that maybe they shouldn't be included?
- will have an early childhood meeting coming up, tbd.
- Roberto feels that having video should be captured and put up on public media, use electronics to our advantage. Yadira will help with this, either her or someone to help her.
- Upcoming events:
  - How did sign ups for volunteering go?
    - Did not make it clear enough that each person was to have everyone fill it out and return it (need to be pushy about it). Others were to have dates on the dates so they would know and be more specific. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade explained how in need we are, but still there was feeling from those as to have more specifics. Some feel that what they do, driving for example or making lunches, this is in effect volunteering, just need to be more specific. Roberto will work with class reps and will follow up regarding this. In 6<sup>th</sup> grade meeting (only half class was represented), there were no questions and she hasn't received anything back.
    - Yadira, feels there are two kinds of volunteering, ones that do it on their own and those who need to be told more specifically what to do.
    - La Toya is the one who writes on the chalk board. Ophelia feels that if it is not filled out, it leaves a bad impression, no one knows who is responsible for it. Noelle does the pictures.
    - Roberto feels we are in the post pioneering stage of volunteering, where people need to be told. What he did last year was to have a meeting with all the new families about what expectations there are for volunteering. A letter was sent out at the beginning of each year, but a reminder would be helpful.
  - Community enrichment:
    - They had a meeting and brainstormed. Noelle will do media event, Healthy Media Choices, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, Tuesday, Media safety will be coordinated by Katie in April, Why Waldorf limits media presented by the teachers, will be in April (coordinate with the open house (no date set)?).
    - What support does Noelle need for March event? She spoke about having an open PA meeting to talk about media. She has speaker lined up, community of helpers of two fifth grade parents lined up to help, asking for help in local media places to save the date, is having others helping up front. Will have child care for only Waldorf families. This will take place in the community room downstairs. Will have someone work on the chalkboard. Live Schneider will be the speaker and is a pediatrician. Not just for Waldorf, for everyone. She will not talk about Waldorf. Will try to get in touch with the recent graduates to share the news.
  - Contra Dance, Saturday, March 12th: Will have to look at sign-up sheets and see who has signed up for the event which will be from 6:00 to 7:30, need snacks and

set them up on the table, someone to collect money (not the whole time). Then help clean up from 7:30-7:45. Cost is \$5 per person or \$10 for the family or you can pay more if you want to stay afterward for a bigger contra dance. Kim will take care of the advertising.

- Jason's deli event in March 9<sup>th</sup>. They just need to know how many people from 5:00 to 10pm. Other restaurants will happen later on for more fundraising. This is called spirit night.
  - Teacher Appreciation, May
  - Communication Care and Outreach-On-Going.
  - Games night? Which is during a busy week, the first week in May.
  - Megan wants a food truck night and would like to coordinate it during this week, instead of the pot luck. Last year the games moved outside and she feels this would work better. Allison will help with games night.
- Open question & discussion:
  - Roberto feels it is not too early for the next years PA succession. We should start now even for more specific events and to be more specific within those events.
  - Maybe having a notebook for each event so input can be noted.
  - Ophelia would like a Eurythmy night, for example, what is it? Maybr Gerta can be invited to a future pa meeting.
  - At Emerson Waldorf School, they are doing a diversity clinic. Two day event March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

This concluded the PA meeting notes for February 02, 2016.

Terry Wyllie, Secretary