

Richmond Waldorf School  
PA Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2015

The following are the meeting minutes for March of the 2014-2015 school year:

Attendees- Kim Washburn, Noelle Watson, Annie Lacy, Jennifer McCall, Heide Trepanier, Tim Thurber, Irina Baranova, Joel McCauley, Ophelia von Ludwig, Niki Randall, Cary White, Katie Adams Parrish, Tracy Haines, Sarah Knaup, Elisabeth Corey

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- Welcome by Kim Washburn & Introductions by All
- The February minutes were approved.
- Proceeded to have class updates from each grade. The following is a brief description by each:
  - Early Childhood: Winter themes, birds, songs; preparing for St. Patrick and spring themes in March; reflection about relationships (e.g. old friends and new); gratifying to see the relationships and intercommunity skills that have developed throughout the year.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Nature Walk to Forest Hill Park to go sledding; working on math block and learning the 4 processes of math through characters (King Plus, Queen Minus, Princess Multiplication, Prince Divide); using jewels for adding and subtracting
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Language Arts block – creating sentences; working with consonant/vowel combinations which helps with their reading practice; hearing stories about extraordinary people (Joan of Arc, St. Francis, MLK, etc.); preparing for their play
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Just learned how to tell time so children are now allowed to wear watches; are about to start using their bow for their stringed instruments; planning a trip to the Frontier Museum
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Norse mythology; just performed their play where children got the opportunity to experience role reversal (i.e. boys played girl roles and vice versa)
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: performed their play and have begun a new block on North American Geography. They will begin a weekly Pentathlon practice with Annie Tabor this week.
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Studying physics with a focus on optics and acoustics and writing observations of their experiences with them; understanding complimentary colors; later they will study heat, magnetism and static electricity; working on their class play Robin Hood.
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Finishing up European geography; will be have a European food fest on Monday with 6<sup>th</sup> grade; hoping to bring in music from the different cultures of Europe; reading a book called Come August Come Freedom by local author Gigi Amateau; for their next field trip they will be going to the slave exhibit at the Library of VA.
- Relay Foods – Sean Hickey, local market manager for Relay Foods, gave a presentation on the company, demoed their website and explained how the Waldorf10 fundraiser will work.

Relay Foods will be running a promo that will give RWS 10% of all purchases made through mid-June using the WALDORF10 coupon code.

- Committee updates:
  - Heads
    - Parent Education event coming up (tentative date March 19<sup>th</sup>) – Waldorf Through the Grades which is an evening to explore aspects of the Waldorf Grades curriculum
    - Discussion on communication and how the PA can communicate in a more timely and effective manner with the parent community. The idea of a monthly PA newsletter came forward as a means of providing news and then leaving the communications between PA reps and their classes to the business at hand.
  - Hearts
    - Teacher Appreciation
      - We need ideas and people to help with the Teacher Appreciation planning and implementation for Teacher Appreciation Week in May; more will be discussed at our April Meeting.
      - The PA was approached by the auction committee with the suggestion for the PA to show faculty appreciation by offering to pay for the faculty's auction ticket. The PA discussed the reasons why the cost of the auction precludes the faculty receiving complimentary tickets this year so the PA paying for the tickets would be a kind gesture of appreciation. PA does not think that the faculty should have to pay to attend the auction so the motion was made and approved for paying the wholesale cost for any teacher that would like to attend. The PA would like to note that they are offering this as a onetime gesture and should not necessarily be expected going forward.
  - Hands
    - Playground Project – we would like to assemble a team of parents to plan the next phases of the playground. Heide will provide the cost breakdown for the April meeting. Slack lines have been purchased, small play structure being rebuilt, the Gaga Ball Pit will hopefully be built over Spring Break.
- Annual Auction Update – We need volunteers from each class to help with set up and break down; the auction committee is also looking for volunteers to help as runners the night of the auction.
- Dress Code – We had a follow-up discussion on the dress code. Feedback was received from 3 grades: 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. General consensus at the PA meeting was that the dress code should be gender neutral, that wording should be used that applies to all students equally. Joel and Kim will combine this feedback and present to Faculty College via Jennifer Fleming for consideration.

This concluded the PA meeting notes for March 3rd.

