

Richmond Waldorf School
PA Meeting Minutes

March 5th, 2015

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

Attendance- Kim Washburn, Terry Wyllie, Noelle Watson, Loretta Walker, Jennifer McCall, Roberto Trostli, Elisabeth Corey, Suzanne Rosenhammer, Alison Kent, Niki Randall, Ophelia von Ludwig, Katie Adams Parrish, Lilah Sol - 14 total

- Introduction by Kim Washburn & Welcome
- Opening verse
- Introductions for additional parents were present.
- The April minutes were approved. No questions were asked.
- Proceeded to have class updates from each grade. The following is a brief description by each:
 - Early Childhood: includes all the grades. The kids did the May Pole dance and sang songs. They made finger knitted bracelets. Will have the Mother's Day tea soon, check the Waldorf Calendar.
 - 1st Grade: completing a language arts swap. Writing down lyrics from their play named the Wife and Her Fisherman. Going to Bear Creek State Park with the Charlottesville class. They have received bicycles and having lessons. Looking for donations for new bikes to be similar to what they have.
 - 2nd Grade: Finished the play before the spring break, which was stressful. Into a math block using carrying and borrowing, which has been presented very well. Doing reading groups, picking up the pace, and separated into different levels. Easing into reading, very beautiful.
 - 3rd Grade: Farm tip coming up and studying money. They will stay overnight and have a lot of activities planned.
 - 4th Grade: On the False Cape trip. Cooking their meals in different work groups, kayaking, walking on the beach, and have seen some snakes. They have been having a lot of fun. Also continuing with their animal studies. Will have first formal string performance this Friday at gathering.
 - 5th Grade: Class reader The Enormous Egg. Olympics are Wednesday so they have been getting ready for the events the past few weeks. Three class visitors for next year with four more to come have visited. Continuing study of Ancient civilization.
 - 6th Grade: Have just finished their play which was a great success! They have used a lot of their morning lesson time to learn their lines, cues, and timing. They will finish the middle ages this week and then move into Geology. The rest of the month they will also delve into business math, percentages, interest, and profit. They will review this next fall and will go into the history of money and banking and different business practices. Geology will include the nature and types of rocks as well as the composition of the earth. They will find out about the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius and the subsequent tidal wave and will then go spelunking on a field trip

to Morefield mines. Other field trips include a presentation of King Arthur at Agecroft Hall.

- 7th Grade: Getting ready for A Christmas Carol, starting last writing block, two field trips coming up (library of Virginia, slave trade). Will go up to DC on the train with their teachers and the woodworking teacher (maybe the Portrait gallery).
- 8th Grade:

- Committee updates:
 - Will be located on the Parents Corner for review.
 - Received PA dues and Kroger payment. Balance is over \$10,000 (see surplus plans below). Community rewards has been very successful and doing very well. Contra Dance was worth it and found very enjoyable even though it made little money.
 - May Faire hope was to make \$5,000 not \$15,000 as noted.
 - Contribution from Relay goes to the school. Initial feedback was that some are forgetting to use the Waldorf Code. Will run through Mid-June and will remind in the messenger they give 10 percent.
 - Gas can contribute through Scrip.
- Committee discussions:
 - Executive:
 - PA officers: Terry Wyllie will stay on as Secretary, but Kim will not stay on as Moderator only and emeritus. A lot needs to happen over the summer which involves the parents and should be conveyed in the upcoming meeting.
 - With great surprise Noelle Watson and Lilah Sol offered to take on the PA Moderator role as co-moderators. They were nominated and approved. Secretary and Treasurer were also formally approved.
 - PA Budget Surplus:
 - Noelle (feedback): PA system, better lights, painting social hall, add funds to tuition assistance, funds to build music library (scores have to be purchased and budget was cut), portable music stands, also the stands to have solid backs.
 - Loretta (suggestion): had to cut strings budget in half so stands are really needed (11 in constant use). Buy music for grades 5 through 8 (this can be done over time). As a school, would benefit having a school instrument for each size (this can be done over time). As your child ages out of an instrument consider selling it back to the school. Will have to check with school program and other grades and disciplines.
 - A certain amount is earmarked for the playground
 - Possibility for specialty teachers
 - Katie Bullington (suggestion): signage along the road. Basketballs for recess use, archery supplies and likes the stage curtain idea.

- Church is planning to paint and will continue to use the social hall so for anything done to the stage, it must meet their approval.
 - Improving first impressions, rainbow room tables & chairs, hall, etc.
 - (suggestion)Don't use money that should be in the school budget and not for plugging holes.
 - Need to work with the faculty college as to what ideas are actually in the school budget and that they are really about start up things that can carry on from year to year.
 - Teacher grant was brought up.
 - Pricing for some of these ideas will be brought up at the next meeting.
- Heads:
 - Parent Education:
 - Got feedback to continue the Alumni reports to come back and share their transition. The evening will be called "The Journey Beyond Waldorf". Questions will be given for them to give their responses. More information will be publicized. Two hour session is planned.
- Hearts:
 - Teacher Appreciation (planning & Prep)
 - Will be next week and will be in the Messenger. Plans are to do things next Wednesday and Friday for the teachers and need volunteers. Flower for tables (Wednesday) Friday a lunch is planned, volunteers would take over the classes, while the teachers go to lunch. Provide a photo of all the kids lined up in a group around the fence holding a sign that says thank you. Will need volunteers. 7th graders will help on picture day and lunch.
 - \$650.00 approved for teacher appreciation day functions.
- Festival Feedback, Events and/or ideas for next year:
 - Estimated gross for auction was \$26,000 net \$20,000, May Faire net to be around \$ 3000 +/- . 7th grade book sale made more than \$200 plus. Auction venders were asked to make a donation to the May Faire.
 - Auction (feedback)-Nice RWS vibe and community feel, some thought it was too expensive or done with volunteering to participate. Some of the Volunteering didn't go as well as planned except for on the day. The wi-fi system at the location did not function well making checkout difficult.
 - May Faire feedback. Most feedback was that it was a great success. A May Faire pre-planning meeting for next will be held next Tuesday.
 - An Auction feedback meeting may be planned.

- Question & Discussion:
 - Grandparents would like something on calendar just for them.
 - Also maybe a year at a glance or season at the beginning of the year.

This concluded the PA meeting notes for March 05th.

Terry Wyllie, Secretary