

Richmond Waldorf School

Parents Association Meeting Agenda and Minutes

November 5, 2013

Attendees: Kim Washburn, Nicole Randall, Gerda Kott, Alison Kent, Megan Chase, Dawn Pollard, Tim Thurbur, Sabrina Rigaurd-Carrié, Philippe Carrié, Michael Jones, Ebony Jones, Katherine Chen, Tracy Werner, Ophelia von Ludwig, Terry Wyllie, Susannah Meyer, Heide Trepanier, Katie Adams Parrish, Sarah Knaup, Yadira Carillo, Cynthia Mulvaney

Facilitator: Kim Washburn

Secretary: Tracy Werner

Date, Time, Location: 11/5/13, 6:00 to 8:00 PM, Richmond Waldorf School

Agenda Item	Purpose (Inform, Discuss, Decide)	Time Allotted	Summary
Welcome, Introductions and PA Class Representative Reports	Discuss	15 min	Willow Report – None; Sylvia not able to make it Acorn Report – Making Lanterns this week and several birthday celebrations Dogwood K – Children making lanterns; Eurythmy with Gerda Oak K – Lantern Making and Lantern Songs 1 st Grade – Children have entered into Math Block; learning the quality of numbers; Making Lanterns this week; Pumpkin carving with 8 th Graders for Halloween celebration 2 nd Grade – No Update 3 rd Grade – Reading; library trips; farm trip to Megan's farm 4 th Grade – Learning Norse Mythology; starting to introduce homework 5 th Grade – Basketball started; visited a pumpkin patch for Halloween; children enjoying woodworking; Making lanterns this week. 6 th Grade – Mineralogy 7 th /8 th – High School Reps visiting; pumpkin carving with 1 st Graders After Care - Sylvia Gale will be representing aftercare for future meetings.

Heads Committee Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Parent Education ❖ Communication – Surveys 	Inform	10 min	Parent Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ New parent group gathering to start Wednesday mornings from 8:30 – 10:30 am. PA updates will be provided after PA meetings to parents that were not able to attend the monthly evening meeting; Would like to start a book club possibly starting with “Heaven on Earth: A Handbook for Parents of Young Children” by Sharifa Oppenheimer ❖ RWS founder Maria Butler will be presenting “Myths, Fables, Fairy Tales and Legends” on Thursday, November 14th 6:30-8:00 pm Communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Parent Skills and Interest Survey – we have had 26 families participate. Will continue to encourage parents to participate. Need to set a deadline. ❖ Class Reps please cc (copy) the pa@richmondwaldorf.com email address when sending out communications to respective classes. We need to be sure that the PA is communicating consistently and in a timely manner since our focus this year is to improve communication
Hearts Committee Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Welcoming Committee ❖ Community Care ❖ Social Events 	Inform	10 min	Social Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Parent socials held for K Moms and Dads. Socials for Grades Moms and Dads are being scheduled – Nov 21 Moms and Nov 22nd(?) – Dads; more info to come Community Care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Festival Dress swap to occur prior to the next Festival; parents can bring in their gently used outgrown festival dress and swap out for something else ❖ Teacher appreciation planning to start in November for the December Teacher Appreciation Holiday Bonus
Hands Committee Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ School Beautification ❖ Fundraising – Scrip, Kroger, Box Tops ❖ Playground Improvement 	Inform	10 min	School Beautification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Heide is working on signage for around the school; some made professionally, one made by a class, ideas might include murals. There will also be sign-ups for helping with Spiral Walk and other small jobs. ❖ Will work with Noelle Rose who is the Faculty member assigned to school Beautification ❖ Ideas for ways to improve the school are welcome

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Hot Lunch Program? ❖ Festivals – Feedback and Upcoming 			<p>Fundraising – current fundraising will benefit the Playground Improvement Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Scrip and Kroger Care card gift card programs rolled out in the Messenger this week. ❖ Thursday will be the Scrip order day ❖ Pilot run of two Scrip orders with only 6 participating families earned the school over \$150. ❖ 13 Kroger Cards gift cards have been distributed and we have already accumulated over \$650. Once the accumulated sales reach \$5000, the school will receive a check for \$250(5%). See the PA to purchase the reloadable Kroger cares gift cards ❖ Need to get more families to participate <p>Playground Improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Kickoff meeting held with Early Grades faculty; lots of great ideas presented ❖ Decided to enhance the toddler structure first. Better steps have been added. Plan to add a canopy and pirates steering wheel once we get approval from Social Services ❖ 4th Grade teacher, Katie Bullington, has requested jump ropes; there is someone at the Charlottesville Waldorf that makes jump ropes, Sarah Knaup will look into this. ❖ Parent Michael Jones suggested using non-profit status to get playground funds/equipment. <p>Hot Lunch Program – Dogwood K teacher, Dawn Pollard, explained that K classes do not participate in hot lunch because not every child participates which makes it difficult to explain to children who don't get lunch delivered.</p> <p>Festivals – Spiral Walk is the next Festival</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Gerda Kott has explained that we are going to need parent volunteers to gather greens for the double spiral. ❖ We will also need parents to help to hang the blackout paper ❖ Gerda would like to see if there are volunteers to make blackout curtains that could be used for future years rather than purchasing the expensive blackout paper.
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Questions/Open Discussion/Upcoming Events	Discuss	10 min	<p>Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 1st Wednesday Morning Parent Gathering – Nov 6th ❖ Lantern Walk – Nov 8th ❖ 2nd Game Plan Town Hall Meeting – Nov 11th ❖ Myths, Fables, Fairy Tales and Legends – Nov 14th ❖ Grades Moms' Social – Nov 21st ❖ Grades Dads' Social – Nov 22nd ❖ Special Relative's Day – Nov 26th ❖ Teacher Winter Appreciation Planning – now for late November publicity ❖ Spiral Walk – December 12th Evening – Grades, Dec 13th morning - Kindergarten ❖ Next PA Meeting – Dec 3rd
Lantern Making Workshop	Activity	1 hour	Led by Dawn Pollard; parents made lovely paper lanterns out of Water colored paintings and tissue paper. Fun!