

Richmond Waldorf School
PA Meeting Minutes

November 10th, 2014

The following are the meeting minutes for the first PA meeting of the 2014-2015 school year:
Attendance - Kim Washburn, Irina Baranova, Adam Lacy, Priscilla Wiggin, Tracy Werner, Roberto Trostli, Tim Thurber, Jennifer McCall, Lilah Sol, Cary White, Joel McCauley, Terry Wyllie, Megan Chase, Niki Randall, Ophelia von Ludwig, Katie Adams Parrish

- Introduction by Kim Washburn & Welcome
- Introduction by each parent and staff. Each parent made a greeting by name and the name of their child and which class they were in.
- The October minutes were approved
- Proceeded to have class reports from each grade.
 - Acorn K – Halloween parade, songs made pumpkin bean bags
 - Dogwood – Enjoyed Halloween celebration and making Halloween bags, made apple bean bags
 - Oak – Fun with Halloween, some birthday celebrations
 - 1st Grade – Held a parent/child Saturday main lesson for parents to see what their children are doing; wrapping up letters and moving into numbers
 - 2nd Grade - finished first Arithmetic block: reviewed cardinal and roman numerals, four processes of math and the 2s, 3s, 5s, and 10s tables. Moving into a Nature studies block with focus on seasons and nature cycles. In addition to nature stories, they will hear Native American legends about the sun and moon, fables and the story of St Martin for Martinmas
 - 3rd Grade – working on mental math, multiplication, adding even and odd numbers; working on their lanterns
 - 4th Grade – Jamestown living museum fieldtrip; art work with Mrs. Craig, moving back into math
 - 5th Grade – Greek Mythology, finished their first book report, about to start math block reviewing fractions, starting Basketball this week.
 - 6th Grade – finishing up geometry moving into the study of the heavens and Astronomy. They will make use of the Sky Watch observations from last month; studying Polaris and its use a celestial guide; making lanterns
 - 7th Grade – finishing up Algebra moving into nutrition, physiology and anatomy block; working on the digestive system; activities with 1st Grade buddies; still taking Swing Dancing; learning The Raven to recite at the Edgar Allen Poe Museum.
- Introduced the guest speakers:
 - Tracy spoke about the upcoming events:
 - Grandparents & Special Relatives day will be November 25th. The new name is to honor them and to really make them feel special. There will be no solicitation of funds. This year we are really trying to cultivate

relationships and to possibly get their time and talent if possible. Invitations were sent out in hopes to get a head count for the big day. Name tags and how they are linked to the children will be given out and hosts will be able to direct and help out with information. Roving photographers will also be at hand. This is really a day to shower them with appreciation.

- Priscilla Wiggin spoke about the Annual Fund:
 - Priscilla is co chair with Allison Kent.
 - Giving a gift every year helps to support the operating budget. Giving something, even a little is more important than not giving at all. Because our contribution number is reflects to the community that we invested and a whole and not just a few individuals. The fund contributes to salaries, training, materials, and other needs. The school tuition does not cover fully the education of the children.
 - There will be a class captain who will be in charge of phoning and getting in touch with the parents in each class to help with the participation.
 - This year the Annual Fund will run between the 7th of November and the 18th of December. The goal to be raised for the school this year is \$100,000, with \$75,000 of that being from the Annual Fund.
 - The Annual Fund is not the same as the Scholarship Fund in which the gift is restricted. Parents can pledge throughout the year, give online, or use their companies match program (if offered).
 - The school is really trying to establish a Culture of Commitment
- Committee Updates:
 - Each committee head then presented a summary of where things are:
 - Executive Committee (Kim Washburn);
 - Board will not meet until next week. They are all really active in going over a lot of information.
 - The Renewal magazine for all the parents will not be funded by the PA. A few issues will be purchased and kept at hand for parents to borrow. If any (cont.) parents would like to purchase the magazine, they can do so through the school for \$9 for the two yearly issues.
 - Heads Committee (Sarah):
 - Parent education- Sharifa Oppenheimer will be speaking on November 18th with a book study on the 16th. Her book will be for sale in hopes the sale will help cover the cost of the speaker. The PA will need help for this event in the morning Wednesday through Friday
 - Environmental-
 - It has been mentioned and requested that the school use no wax coating cups. Compostable only cups. For the lantern walk, there will be no napkins to go with the cookies to try and reduce the amount of waste.
 - The Church has agreed to let the school share in the use of the Cutlery and is working on a plan to allow us to use one of the rooms for the possibility of a Parent Room.

- Hearts Committee:
 - There will be a Fall/Winter clothing swap w/ festival dress being specific items to be swapped. The PA will need help setting up and are looking for extra bins and Racks.
 - The holiday teacher appreciation bonus will be coming up on the 16th of December. The contributions will go into one pool but parents can give to their child's teacher in addition if they would like.
 - There will be a parent coffee social November 11th in the morning.
- Hands Committee:
 - Handwork & Lantern making workshops will be coming up.
 - Upcoming Lantern Walk will be November 14th @ the Stone House at Forest Hill Park. The walk will begin at 4:45pm. Helpers will be needed to help monitor the street. Lantern Hooks are also needed and the 2nd grade will be providing the play. Any friends or others parents know are also invited.
 - Spiral walk will be the 1st week of December. Evergreens will be needed.
- Volunteerism (Roberto Trostli) guest speaker:
 - As part of the community development of the school, we are trying to refine the way we work with volunteers. And to think about way to help develop a culture of volunteerism. How to engage the third tier of helpers and how to thank them and recognize the value they have given. Also to ask those who volunteer, "How can we do better in helping others like you who volunteer?"

This concluded the PA meeting notes for November 4th.