



Parents Association Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2022

5:30pm

"Love starts when we push aside our ego and make room for someone else."

-Rudolf Steiner

Opening:

The November PA meeting was called to order at 5:36 pm on Tuesday, November 1, 2022 in the First Grade Classroom at The Richmond Waldorf School.

Present:

Co-Moderators: Erica Childress & Heather Maury

Treasurer: Danny Friedman

Secretary: Elizabeth Cleveland

Faculty Representative: Susannah Meyer, 5th Grade

Class Representatives: Carlton Bragg (2nd), Eliza Brill (6th), Rosa Castellano (3rd), Mary Engelken (Willow), Lory Markham, Betsy Miller (Magnolia), Somer Mojica (EC), Rocio Espericueta (1st), Shawn Smith (Acorn) Maggie Reinke (7th), Ben Hayward (2nd) Michael Bermudez (Willow)

Head of School: Tim Daniel

Marketing & Advancement Specialist: Rachel Davis

Parents: Du Cheng, Brooke Anderson

Absent:

Elizabeth Balay, Michele Burt (7th), Julian Johnson (Oak), Megan Jones (Oak), Rebeckah Lehto, Pete Markham, Melissa Smallfield, Mallory Sandridge (Magnolia), Anna Darnall (Dogwood)

I. Board Update from Tim Daniel, Head of School

- A. **Last meeting**: October 27
- B. **Finance committee**: exploring new ways to secure the RWS emergency reserves that currently are not in an FDIC insured account. Reviewing proposals. Considering how the committee can invest in policies going forward.
- C. **DEIJ Committee**: Formerly DEI, now DEIJ (added for Justice).
- D. **Long Range Committee**: Gearing up to look at strategic and master planning (includes campus and facilities). The main focus of long-range planning are RWS programs and future planning. The committee is currently looking at our current facility and examining what we might need to do to accomplish additional growth – expansion or renovation, etc.
- E. **Ad hoc Committee** – Looking at accreditation and governance based on last year's consulting group. Planning to address those recommendations.

II. Finance Update

- A. Current funds at the time of the meeting: Around \$8731.74

III. Seasonal Roots Fundraiser

- A. When: Going on now and will run until June 2023.



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B. Getting the word out:

1. Flyers at coffee socials
2. No booth at Holiday faire
3. Booth at May faire

IV. Coffee Social

- A. 5th grade hosting for November
- B. 4th grade hosting for December – Volunteers needed!
- C. Reminder, if you aren't getting parent involvement, please reach out to the PA leadership team for support!

V. Martinmas Coat Drive: November 9-11

- A. Collection stations: Bins for collecting will be at EC and GRADES drop off, and the Front Lobby.
- B. Class in charge: First grade supporting. **Need sign ups and more parents to help!**

VI. Lantern Walk: Friday, November 11

- A. Purpose: Time of reverence
- B. Class in charge: Second grade –sign ups look good!!!
- C. Volunteer Needs: Need cookies, cider, set up and clean up
- D. Participants in the Lantern Walk (early childhood through 3rd grade)
- E. Schedule of events: 5pm – Classes have cookies and cider. Following that, EC through 3rd will walk thoughtfully, sing, and then close. Participants and guests should exit quietly to cars.

VII. Holiday Faire: December 3

- A. Fundraisers for PA:
 1. Discussion about the possibility of face painting
 2. Poinsettia Sales (would need to pre-orders and only do "pick ups" at Holiday Faire, point person, volunteers to organize and tag)
- B. Volunteer needs: **Everyone** needs to do a shift during the day to make it smooth. Thank you!
- C. Volunteer Leadership needs: We need leaders to step up and lead Holiday Faire as Heather and Erica will be out. Erica will be available to kick things off, but we need a point person(s) for the rest of the event.

VIII. Volunteer Needs

- A. **Holiday Fund:** Raises money from parents for teachers and staff – a holiday "thank you" for all they do.
 1. It was discussed if the school admins should lead this effort. There was consensus that this should continue to be parent-led.
 2. PA leaders and reps are not allowed to lead this effort due to RWS governance. We will need a point person, who is not a class rep or PA leader, from each class to help raise donations from their respective class.



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3. **Class reps:** Your action item is to find that person for your class. Thank you!!!

- B. **Holiday Faire** – Please sign up for a shift! We need people to make this run smoothly and be successful.
- C. **December Coffee Social** – 4th grade in charge –Please start recruiting parents.

IX. **Annual Fund!**

- A. **Pajamas & Pancakes** will be held on a Saturday morning in January, for the classes who reach 100% participation. This is for families and their kids, not just the kids.
- B. Rachel Davis explained there was a lot of thinking put towards this to make sure it wouldn't feel like a punishment for classes who didn't make it. The focus is on rewarding families, not just the kids. It will be held outside of school hours vs. during school hours.
- C. We were at 78% participation last year and this is another effort to try and push us forwards. School participation helps RWS secure additional funding, grants and accreditation.
- D. **Deadline for classes to reach 100% – December 6.** Give or pledge by December 6, may pay through the end of the school year. The annual fund will continue until May 2023, but this is a final incentive push for this 2022 year (much like the Glow Garden raffle tickets).

X. **Next PA Meeting: Tuesday, December 6, 2022**

- A. This will be a “wine and wrap” meeting. Bring wrapping paper and presents you don't want your kids to see! We'll wrap and sip wine while doing the meeting. Note: Bringing presents to wrap is optional of course!

XI. **PA Folders**

- A. Erica handed out class rep folders. This has all the information about events your class is responsible for, details on hosting coffee hours, etc.

Closing: Erica closed the meeting at 6pm.

Next PA Meeting: December 6, 2022 at 5:30 pm at the Richmond Waldorf School.