

MINUTES

River Plaza PFA Minutes for June 16, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Kathleen Marinich at 7:35pm. A quorum was not present (Board fully present plus 7 voting members and Ms. Shaw). Kathleen raised the idea of not having a June meeting moving forward given the end of year schedules and low attendance. Control of the meeting was handed over to the new PFA Board under Marguerite Stocker.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were reviewed from the May meeting. The minutes were approved.

Officers' Reports

Treasurer's Report: In June, the budget shows the overage. Typically, this has been spent on teacher supplies or gift cards for the teachers to use as needed. Feedback was that if this is done, all teachers including specials teachers need to be included. This increases the cost to about \$2500. The teachers loved the gift cards, but this would need to be voted on at the September meeting. The class grant committee was also voted on last year, and this was \$1500. These two items would use most or all of the overages.

The class grant program has a document outlining rules/procedures which will be shared with the new board.

June 30 is the end of the fiscal year, so the budget for the year will be closed soon.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence:

Correspondence was reviewed. Thank you notes from Miss Wessel's and Mrs. McAleer's class were received for Field Day. These will be returned to these teachers so the parents can see these notes.

Thank you notes were also received from:

- Mrs. Morin for the luncheon and grant program
- Mrs. Sweeney for flowers received for Teacher of the Year
- Mrs. Georgiou for the bracelet

Committee Reports

Book Fair: Over \$4000 was made, which yielded a donation over \$800 to the school. Typically, this money is spent on supplying the library and classrooms with books.

Field Day: Positive feedback was received. Over 90 parents volunteered. It was a definite success. The day operated under budget.

Kindergarten Orientation: New format was a success. Turnout was good and ran smoothly. We stand at 46 students, so it still looks like 2 classes.

Principal's Report

Ms. Shaw thanked everyone for Field Day, Kindergarten Orientation and the 5th Grade Ceremony. The outdoor luncheon for the younger grades that day worked well. The book fair was a success. It enabled students to purchase from the Summer Reading lists.

Early dismissals begin tomorrow and run through the end of the year. Bus 2 is now running on time.

At the BOE Meeting last night, there was a discussion to move the official start time to 8:55am and dismissal to 3pm for elementary schools. Doors would then open at 8:40 for an 8:55 start, and 3pm would

start end of day announcements, with students not coming out until 3:05 or 3:10. This has been tabled until the July BOE meeting.

Grades 4/5 will stay departmentalized. Almost all elementary schools in the district will departmentalize at least 5th grade as of next school year. Friday is the Kindergarten moving up ceremony. Class list assignments will go home in August.

The State has officially decided there will now only be one test for PARCC rather than 2.

Old Business

The question was raised if purchasing speed bumps for the back and side lots needs approval. Kathleen Marinich will send information to Ms. Shaw so the proper approval can be sought. Marguerite asked if a work order is in to clean the gutters. The outside of the facility is technically not the job of our custodial staff. This is done at the District level. The custodial staff or M. Shaw notifies Walter Cahill and the job gets put in a queue. Ms. Shaw or Mrs. Levy should be notified of any problems requiring maintenance. All maintenance of outdoors is BOE level, aside from planting flowers.

We had spoken about using some money from the spring fundraiser for landscaping. Six landscaping services were contacted, and only 2 bids were received as some services were not interested in working on schools.

Hugo's Landscaping would charge \$1600 for pruning, weeding, edging and blowing of leaves in the front of the school and around the perimeter. New Image Landscaping would charge \$1500 to trim, weed, mulch, cut dead branches in front of the school, down the side driveway and around the sign. In late August, they would clean up for an additional \$500, in May for \$100 and next August for \$400. Proposal was made not to do any clean-up at this time with school ending, but to wait until right before school begins and then perhaps again in the spring. We only have about \$900 left after the playground equipment and library scanner are ordered with the fundraising money.

The issue was raised whether the May meeting approved the specific playground equipment presented at that time or just general 'outdoor improvements' with the specific equipment remaining to be decided. There was some miscommunication as to what was exactly approved at the previous meeting. A new vote was offered, but Ms. Shaw also felt that the specific equipment was approved as part of the May vote. After some discussion, Marguerite proposed we move forward with the equipment presented in May, but that moving forward we need to be clearer on what is being voted on and approved. It takes time for the order to go through and for installation to take place in a timely fashion so all in attendance agreed to move forward with the equipment discussed in May.

In regards to landscaping, it was also mentioned that we can try to reach out to families for more volunteers/donations for landscaping. The water access outside is a major issue, as a key/adaptor is needed to access it.

New Business

We have a new art teacher – Maggie Messina. She will be shared between River Plaza and another school. We also have a new nurse, but she is officially not resigned from her current position so her name is not being shared yet.

Suggestion for a water fountain outside was made.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Marguerite at 8:25pm and was approved.