

River Plaza PFA Minutes for November 30th, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Marguerite Stocker at 7:06pm. A quorum was present (5 Board members, Mr. Whitman and 8 voting members). The colors were presented.

Approval of Minutes

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

Officers' Reports

Treasurer's Report: The budget was reviewed. We received over \$10K in membership. The color run raised over \$6700 in profit. The book fair total profit is not in yet as we have expenses to pay. The Jets game tickets raised \$186. This money goes to the school fund (not the PFA).

Secretary's Report/Correspondence: A thank you note was received from Mrs. Moffitt for the flowers we sent to her.

Committee Reports

Color Run – The run was a success. If we do it again (which we think we will) we will need to decide whether or not to use the company again or do it on our own.

Jets Game – The kids had a lot of fun. 12 families attended and a child from 5 of those families got an on-field experience.

Veteran's Day – The assembly was a big success. It was the 33rd annual Veteran's Day assembly at River Plaza. Mrs. Levy did most of the work so a big thanks to her. We do still need people to run the committee for next year so if you or know someone who is interested please reach out to Kathleen.

Holiday Shop – The shop is next week. We are going to set up at 7am on Thursday rather than the night before. The shop will be held in the APR. We will send out an eblast to make sure we have all the volunteers we need.

Fundraiser – We are going to do a Day at the Races. We are hoping to get the day of the Preakness (May 20th), but nothing is set yet. It will be adults only, and we will need someone to store baskets and help solicit. So we need volunteers and will be looking for help very soon. We would really like a sign in the front of the school instead of the banner that is there now so we are hoping to use the money for that, but we are open to other ideas as well.

Variety Show now has a committee.

We still need people for the Dr. Seuss Week committee. The previous committee is happy to help, but are not looking to run it again.

Ice Skating Day – We are having trouble booking it due to hockey games. We will reach out to Red Bank again and see what we can do. We may also explore Navesink Country Club which has an outdoor rink.

Blue Claws – Has been moved from Friday of Memorial Day weekend to Friday, June 16th which is a half day.

Principal's Report

Parent/Teacher Conferences are going on right now. We are using the online sign-up. We received some feedback that within 15 minutes of opening all of the night conferences were taken. Unfortunately, we can only offer night conferences for 1 night so this is difficult to avoid. What we can do though is change the opening time from 4pm as some people may not be able to log in if they are still at work. Going forward, we will probably open it much later to make it more equitable for everyone. One suggestion was to make the night conferences only with 1 teacher for the upper grades rather than with all 2 or 3 teachers. This is not viewed as a viable solution, but another suggestion was to offer some phone conferences during the day slots so working parents can call in from work to the conference. We can also emphasize that

evening slots should be held for families with both working parents. Another suggestion is to provide some kind of child care for kids so it is easier for parents to attend day time conferences.

Parents would also like to receive more information in the comments section on the report cards. The comments this year simply stated conferences were coming and no details were given. Mr. Whitman will also send out a reminder text when report cards are available.

We are going to have our 1st RP Academic Education Night during which parents will be exposed to what your kids are learning in school. You can experience their curriculum. It will be from 6:30-8 on February 22nd. There is no PFA meeting that month so it will replace that. This is part of an effort to increase our academic events. Parents will also get ideas on things they can do at home with their kids.

Teacher of the Year and Support Staff of the Year nominations are due January 6th. Return to Mr. Whitman. Forms were handed out and will be available online as well. A hard copy must be handed in. A committee will be put together to select the winner.

Thompson chorus is coming on December 19th for a holiday show.

New Business

Fundraising ideas – New sign for the front of the school is our main idea. Other ideas – wireless microphones.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Marguerite at 8:04pm and was approved.