

RCV PTA

2/5/2019

APPROVED

Rachel called the meeting to order at 7:02.

Kate (Secretary) introduced the minutes from December. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, voted on and approved.

Mr. Burns gave the Principal's update. He provided the group with a staffing update. Two staff members are on long-term leave including the counselor Mrs. Bergman. It is difficult to find a long-term substitute for a counselor so the rest of the staff is stepping up to support the key elements of that position. While one of the special education teachers has also departed, staff is supporting that function as well. He has been able to hire a new paraeducator and someone to help at recess.

There was a discussion of testing for the 3rd graders regarding admission to the Centers for Enriched Studies. RCV's testing date is February 22nd and personalized letters will be coming out to families through the MCPS Parent Portal. He noted that the gifted and talented testing in 2nd grade is a totally different screening.

Mr. Burns also gave a presentation titled "School Funds Overview" in which he explained the various funding streams for the work done at RCV. Each school gets an **instructional funds budget** which is completely focused on students (use by students or support of students). The instructional funds budget is broken down into categories with funds allotted.

In addition, the school has an **Independent Activities Fund (IAF)**, which functions in many ways like a checking account. These funds are used for non-instructional materials for staff, building materials, to lessen the costs of field trips, and to sponsor community events. This is working capital that is used to keep doing many things that the school does. Traditionally, monies for this fund come from the rent of the facility, vending machines for staff, grants and fundraising events such as the auction. This year, RCV is not having the auction as in previous years. It will probably be replaced by a Read-A-Thon activity and a family camp out.

One of the main reasons for this presentation was to explain to the group the how funds are gathered and dispersed and to make sure that when fundraising is done it is clear whether it is for the school (IAF) or the PTA.

Mr. Burns noted that the staff raffle (held at the auction in the past) is going on and that the proceeds this year are going to the 5th grade for end-of-year activities.

A suggestion was made to make all of this information and information about the PTA expenditures available in a single infographic.

It was noted that the 5th grade babysitting night will not be in February but will happen later in the year.

Rachel went over some issues. The PTA needs to have a nominating committee in place by March 5th in order to have a slate ready for April. Except for Secretary, the Board members are willing to run again for next year but there are still several vacancies in non-board positions.

Other nominations are open for Cluster coordinator and MCCPTA officer positions. Anyone interested should contact Rachel.

She reminded the group that there is a lot of support available to people serving on the PTA.

Trisha (Treasurer) gave her report. This month had a number of disbursements. Some outdoor equipment was purchased as well as the indoor recess carts. Author Mary Amato returned for an assembly and to work with the 4th grade. The dance, though free this year, made a profit through donations.

Rachel mentioned that she is going to produce some print directories for anyone who might prefer them.

The Spelling Bee will now be on February 19th and Valentine's parties will be next week.

Rachel updated the group on the upcoming Community Service night on February 21st. There will be various stations with activities for the kids to do (blanket making, card marking etc.). A food truck will be there as well.

A lot of progress is being made on planning for the Science Fair / STEM night.

The Talent Show will be on May 10th.

The snowed-out Ledo pizza fundraiser is rescheduled for February 26th. Book Fair will be from March 15th-March 22nd.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15.