

## RCV meeting minutes 1/13/20

### APPROVED

Rachel (President) called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and welcomed everyone. A motion to accept the minutes from December was made, seconded, voted on and approved.

Rachel thanked everyone for baking cookies and coming out for the cookie display. She and Patricia Doherty also spent the morning handing out free books to all the kids before winter break.

Mr. Burns asked that parents be mindful of morning drop off time (9:10AM). Students have been getting dropped off early when there is no adult supervision.

Illnesses have been taking over, particularly in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Cleaning crews have come in to do some extra wiping down in hopes to slow down the spread of the flu.

Mr. Burns stated that he met with the MCPS safety coordinator. The plan is to get cameras outside, as things have been happening during the weekends. There is only one company that does all the county schools. Mr. Burns also indicated that they are trying to get the back gate fixed at the loading dock so that cars can no longer pull into that area.

Mr. Burns said that Montgomery County is pushing up the hiring timeline for new staff. He'll give updates on projected staffing and student enrollments at a future meeting.

A question was raised about morning drop off. Sometimes trucks are loading at the time of drop off which interferes with the traffic pattern. Mr. Burns said they have addressed it with the delivery vehicles to try to avoid that time. He will reach out again to see if they can avoid drop off time.

Another concern was raised- parents park on Russett Rd., get their child(ren) and then make a U-turn over the double yellow line. This is very dangerous and an accident waiting to happen.

The Peace assembly coming up on February 7<sup>th</sup> will celebrate 'Kindness to Others'. There will be a Kindness pledge and song. Parents of children who will be recognized during the Peace assembly will be directly invited, but everyone is welcome to attend.

A RCV PTA Alumnus (Colleen Anderson) spoke about the springtime stream clean up that takes place along Russett Rd. The planning committee is looking to pass the project onto a new generation and are looking for volunteers to help plan the event. This is a once a year event, and the current committee members are happy to help show new volunteers what to do. Tasks would include choosing the date, communicating about it, trying to involve local elementary schools, etc. The goal is to try to clean up the area around Rock Creek Park - streets, parks, creeks, etc. The boy scouts usually do the Oriental Street area and others take care of the area towards RHS on Baltimore Rd. The park service provides gloves and bags for the event. She said they usually have about 70-100 volunteers.

Michelle Levit (Fundraising) thanked everyone for going to Villa Maya. She advised that they don't currently have a final number on the profit. She stated that they made \$300 from the Silver Diner. The MOD Pizza restaurant night will be next week.

Crystal (Social Activities) stated that there are no more social events this month. After school activity registration closed last week, but a few parents still signed up after the deadline, which posed several

problems in getting final counts out to the instructors and RCV teachers. In the future, we may not be able to accommodate late registrations – please help us by registering as early as possible, and certainly no later than the registration deadline. Rachel mentioned we were able to receive free scholarships for several after-school activities. The PTA was also able to use PTA scholarship funds to sponsor a student scholarship recommended by a teacher.

Rachel will send out a sign-up genius for Valentine's day class parties.

Trisha (Treasurer) gave her report through December. The fall dance profited \$144. The Book fair had \$7k in book fair credits (taken as Scholastic Dollars). It was mentioned that the e-wallet was very popular and there are hopes it will be popular again when the next book fair comes around. A check of \$250 came in from Box Tops. Rachel is still collecting paper Box Tops (the ones that have an expiration date listed on them), but new Box Tops are all electronic. There's an app that you can scan your receipt, and it automatically calculates the number of Box Tops in your purchase and shows how much the school is making. Katherine shared that another check came in from Share Sales for \$50 (Shutterfly).

Rachel brought up the grant requests - she suggested that the PTA can fund all the principal approved grant requests using the funding sources listed in the attached table.

Because of the great turnout at the Fall Book Fair, we have a lot of Scholastic Dollars to use. Setting aside money for books before break giveaways (\$2300 for spring and \$2300 for fall) leaves about \$2300 Scholastic Dollars to use for things such as a couch and bean bag chairs for the media center. Ms. Carr also wants to set up a quiet area in her office which could use a carpet and more bean bag chairs. We also had many teacher book requests leftover from the Fall Book Fair. Trisha mentioned that we have to use this money because it will eventually expire. We have a lot of money in the account and feel we should start using it so that the kids can benefit from things. Rachel could get \$250 worth of books, 6 bean bag chairs, a youth couch, and still have about \$1300 Scholastic Dollars which could be used to spend on carpets and seating around the building (Ms. Carr's office, free library in atrium, and perhaps some classrooms).

Motion to approve all attached line items was made, seconded, voted on and approved.

Rachel said there's also \$1500 available in the Health and Fitness budget, which we could consider using to get a soccer goal out back. Mr. Burns said they rent out the school yard space. Katherine said that Barnsley has 2 heavy duty goals on wheels. Everyone agreed that is a good idea.

Rachel said she and Ms. Carr had also been thinking of providing free healthy snacks to all Grade 3-5 students during the week of standardized testing, either before or during the exams. Rachel estimates the snack costs would come to about \$400, which could be taken from the Principal Approved Fund. Mr. Burns agreed.

Motion to approve snack and soccer goal purchases was made, seconded, voted on and approved.

If anyone has any suggestions for bylaw changes, they should be submitted to Rachel. Nothing has to be changed, just has to be resubmitted. Rachel stated that the draft is due by 3/1 and has to be approved 4/1 and submitted by 4/4.

MCPS boundary analysis is currently going on, presentations can be viewed online.

Mr. Burns said that the Montgomery County budget will be a hot topic. All 3 unions have contract negotiations going on. There is an effort to get more counselors and psychiatrists into schools. There has been a shortage of counselors, so the state is still thinking about expanding to social workers. At this time, all MCPS counselors must have a school counselor degree.

Mr. Burns said that RCV will be have some renovations this summer- so far new carpet in DHOH classrooms (or DHOH-shared locations like the library) has been approved. DHOH needs carpet for sound. Wherever it's not necessary MCPS will remove existing carpet and replace with tile. Where carpet is necessary it will be replaced with new carpet.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00PM.

Project Title	Requestor Name	Amount Requested	Amount Requested	Department/Grade Impacted	Approximate # of Students Impacted	Description	Short-term Benefit	Long-term Benefit
Equipment for DHOH	Robyn Miller	\$150	\$100 special needs + \$50 school support	DHOH - all grades	60	Purchase new containers for DHOH & general ed classrooms with DHOH students for organization of Digital Modulation receivers used by ALL DHOH students to access instruction from the teacher microphone.	Will help teachers & students to organize & use very expensive equipment (most storage containers house \$9000 worth of receivers) so that they are not lost and are used by the correct students.	Containers last about 2-3 years and current containers are old, broken, and do not close securely.
Instrumental Music	Stephanie Branch	\$500	\$500 school support	Specials 4th & 5th	N/A	Purchase 2 new violins for RCV	It would provide more students the opportunity to participate in instrumental music while playing <u>quality</u> instruments	Higher quality (than Amazon/ebay) instruments will provide individual students and groups of performers the opportunity to play for years! (violins last a <u>very long time</u> )
PreK Playground Storage	Jaime Bohannon	\$300	\$300 health & fitness	PreK	15+	PreK has had issues with older kids kicking balls on the roof, or not putting things away. Need a small storage shed with locks.	It will keep all of the outdoor play materials organized and accessible!	We will not have to replace as many things, or hide toys in different places.
First Grade Science	Jennifer Chin	\$430 (revised down to about \$170 on Amazon + \$54 Scholastic Dollars)	\$170 school support	Grade 1	79	Science books on various topics to supplement the new NGSS science curriculum, a 3D solar system model, chalk for a science lesson, and fidget bands to help students with sensory needs.	First grade team needs multiple copies of science books to help support our new science curriculum. We don't have enough books to share among the teachers, and we don't have the resources to teach these new topics that haven't been taught before. The 3D solar system model will help our students grasp a very difficult concept of how the planets rotate around the sun. We will use the sidewalk chalk during a science lesson where students will outline their shadows at various times in the day to observe the sun's patterns. The fidget bands were a tool recommended by Kindergarten teachers. Some students can benefit from these bands to increase focus and aid students with sensory needs.	These resources will stick with the 1st grade team to benefit all of the students in future 1st grade classes at RCV.

Total from school support budget: \$720



Rachel Schiffenbauer <rcvptapresident@gmail.com>

## Buying fun seating for Media Center (and classrooms?)

Rachel Schiffenbauer <rcvptapresident@gmail.com>

Wed, Jan 1, 2020 at 3:38 PM

To: "Lawrence, Tara C" <Tara\_C\_Lawrence@mcpsmd.org>

Cc: Kevin Burns <Kevin\_M\_Burns@mcpsmd.org>, "Carr, Ilana S" <Ilana\_S\_Carr@mcpsmd.org>

Hi Mrs. Lawrence!

Happy New Year!! :) Hope you had a great break :)

Just wanted to follow up on ideas for how to spend some of our scholastic dollars (we have \$2,300 ready to spend on whatever you want from their catalog)

To give you some ideas, I wondered what you think of an assortment of bean bag chairs, kid couches, and carpets? I'm not sure if you have access to the scholastic dollars catalog, so I took some screenshots below - feel free to let me know if you have other ideas of things that would be helpful for RCV! There are lots of different carpet options if you're able to see them: <https://bookfairrewards.scholastic.com/productsearch.aspx?txtsearch=carpet>

Looking at the budget we'd have exactly the right amount of funds to buy all of the following:

- 10 bean bag chairs (for media center and/or classrooms?)
- 1 youth couch (for the media center or the free library in the atrium?)
- Three 5'4" x 7'8" carpets (for classrooms?)



### Bean Bag (Blue)

- 119" circumference
- 100% polystyrene beads
- Made in the U.S.A.
- Meets flammability requirements for use in public areas
- 1-year limited warranty

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Item will be shipped separately. Available for shipping within the contiguous U.S. only. May not be shipped to APO/APE or FPO addresses.

Item #: **640733**

In Stock

Our Price:

**\$99.99**

Quantity:

**ADD TO CART**

Add to Wish List



Bean Bag (Blue)

\$99.99

Item #: 640733

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Bean Bag (Lime)

\$99.99

Item #: 668114

[ADD TO CART](#)  
[Add to Wish List](#)



Bean Bag (Rainbow)

\$99.99

Item #: 640731

[ADD TO CART](#)  
[Add to Wish List](#)



Bean Bag (Red)



### Youth Couch (Blue)

Add a splash of color to your reading area with our sturdy youth furniture, and give students a great place to relax with a good book! Measures approximately 31.75" across. Seat is approximately 11" from the ground at the lowest point. Assembly required. Weight limit: 180 pounds. 5-year limited warranty.

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Item will be shipped separately. Available for shipping within the contiguous U.S. only. May not be shipped to APO/APE or FPO addresses.

Item #: 614680

Our Price:

\$199.99

Quantity:

[ADD TO CART](#)  
[Add to Wish List](#)



### Alphabet Tree Carpet 5'4" x 7'8"

**EXCLUSIVE**

Growing readers in your classroom or library! Measures 5'4" x 7'8".

All of our carpets and mats are CRI Green Label Plus®-certified and feature bound, double-stitched nylon. Stainmaster® LotusFX Fiber Shield keeps carpets cleaner and promotes lasting durability, and state-of-the-art printing techniques ensure lasting beauty. Class 1 flammability rating. All carpets are 100% recyclable and made in the U.S.A.!

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Item will be shipped separately. Available for shipping within the contiguous U.S. only. May not be shipped to APO/APE or FPO addresses.

Item #: 643970

Our Price:

\$369.99

Quantity:

[ADD TO CART](#)  
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Alphabet Dots Carpet 7'8"x10'9"

\$599.99

Item #: 632240

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ABC Reading Squares Carpet  
7'8" x 10'9"

\$599.99

Item #: 623243

ADD TO CART  
Add to Wish List

Alphabet Tree Carpet 5'4" x 7'8"

\$369.99

Item #: 643970

ADD TO CART  
Add to Wish List



Let me know what you think! I'd be happy to place the order anytime - the website says it'll just take about 4-6 weeks to ship

Thanks!

Rachel