

RCV PTA

04/02/2019

APPROVED

Rachel (President) called the meeting to order at 7:01.

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

Ms. Carr gave a few updates. Testing for grades 3-5 will begin on April 29th. She will share the schedule with Rachel for distribution to parents. The Open House for the 2019-2020 school year will be on August 30th. Kindergarten orientation is coming up on April 15th and April 16th. She has been letting incoming parents know about the summer kindergarten playdates and there has been a great deal of interest.

Ms. Carr shared that the new counselor, Ms. Fanny Ballard, has started. She has been meeting the kids and has already been a great help. Ms. Ballard will be here for the rest of the year, but they are hoping to hire a new counselor for next year. Interviews have been done, and they hope to have more information by May.

Ms. Carr also gave a summary of recess practices. MCPS has instructed schools to have action plans for recess. RCV already has a plan and so is well-prepared. There are different physical zones in the outdoor spaces used for recess. Adults are assigned to specific zones. Various “before” and “during” practices (such as the adults making sure they have walkie-talkies when appropriate and the assignment of one adult as a “clipboard” person to track kids going in and out of the school) are undertaken to ensure safety. Other assignments for adults include timekeeper and materials manager. Rules for the students are both preventative and proactive. There was a brief discussion about the kinds of games that are allowed and popular.

In response to a question from a parent, Ms. Carr confirmed that there are four long-term subs at this time.

Trisha (Treasurer) gave her report. This month saw the book fair and we also got deposits from Amazon Smile and the Ledo fundraiser.

There was a discussion of whether the 5th grade would be using the money budgeted and available for end-of-the-year activities. Ms. McNiece said they will use it and she will make sure the paperwork is done.

Rachel reminded everyone that the Talent Show is happening on May 10th. Monica would love help with some of the associated tasks so please let her know if you are available.

Crystal (Social) shared that STEM night is coming up on April 26th. STEM night will have food trucks, after-school STEM providers and Mad Science doing demonstrations, and the kids science fair portion. Parent volunteers are needed to help with stations of hands-on activities. Even if children are not

participating in the science fair portion of STEM night, they should be encouraged to attend and have fun.

Kara (Fundraising) recapped the Book Fair. RCV made about \$1900 in profit. Last fall, books were purchased for students and these will be distributed before Spring Break. Please consider volunteering; kids love this. She reminded the group that she and others are already planning for the carnival. It will be on the afternoon of Sunday, May 19th and will include some new activities this year.

Michelle (Fundraising) reminded everyone that there is a Silver Diner night this Thursday, April 4th.

Rachel stated that the PTA is still looking for a few more volunteers to fill positions for next school year and thanked everyone who has already offered to help.

In response to a question, Ms. Carr said that she hoped to have a staffing update to share with the group in May.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30.