

Minutes of the Ridgeview Middle School Parent-Teacher-Student-Association Meeting

April 9, 2013

A called meeting of the RMS PTSA was convened on Tuesday, April 9, 2013 at 7:15pm in the Media Center of Ridgeview Middle School in Gaithersburg, MD, pursuant to notice duly given.

Attendees: Julie Tittle (president), Denise Aranoff-Brown (VP 1), Debra Strickman (VP 2), and Monifa McKnight (RMS Principal) who arrived at 8pm. All signed in members are attached as Exhibit 1.

I. Welcome/call to order - Julie Tittle called the meeting to order at 7:22pm and welcomed everyone. She explained that Mrs. McKnight would be late, so the Principal's report would shift in time until she arrived.

II. Approval of Minutes - Distribution of the minutes from March PTSA meeting, which were approved by Marcy Trost and seconded by Deanie Preston.

III. President's report (7:22pm)

Announcement that Deanie Preston would lead the Nominating Committee for new PTSA officers for the 2013-2014 school year. A request was made for a committee member from each of the feeder schools. Lisa Fischer agreed to be the representative for Jones Lane. No representative from Fields Road Elementary (corrected from Diamond Farm on 5/22/13) was available.

Open officer and committee positions include: President, 2nd VP, MCCPTA delegate and treasurer. Secretary and 1st VP will continue their positions.

IV. MCCPTA update from Tara Murayama (7:25pm)

- County Council was having open budget meetings the week of the PTSA meeting. Request for attendees to show PTA engagement.
- MCCPTA slate is announced for 2013-2014 school year.
- 2.0 curriculum report cards are being improved to provide more clarity.
- MCCPTA spring training will be held from 6-9pm at Richard Montgomery on June 5, 2013.
- Maryland PTA convention will be held on July 16-19 in Towson.
- Board of Education QO cluster meeting will be at TMES on 4/18 at 7pm.

V. Committee reports (beginning at 7:33pm)

1. Staff liaison: Feri reported that volunteer hours for March were due April 10. Report cards will be issued 4/11. Spring dance is from 7-9pm on 4/12. MAPR testing will be held on 4/24. 8th grade science MSAs are on 4/26. 4/25 is Take Your Child to Work Day. On 5/3, the 6th graders will take a field trip to the Newseum. 5/6-10 is the Scholastic BOGO book fair. 5/16 is the last day of the after school bus. 5/23 is the volunteer luncheon from 11-1 in the TV Studio. 6/7 is the 8th grade dance from 7-9pm. 6/13 is 8th grade graduation from 9-11am at QO, followed by the Six Flags field trip.
2. International Night: The date conflict issue and lack of parent volunteers have resulted in the cancellation of this event.
3. School dance is on 4/12. Admission is \$2 for non-members and \$1 for PTSA members. There will be games for non-dancers.
4. Staff appreciation week is 5/6 - 5/10.

5. Next restaurant community night for PTSA is Tuesday, April 30 at Five Guys.
6. Mile of Champions qualifying event is being held on 4/11 to identify fastest runners in each grade. Mile of Champions event to be held on 5/24. (Amended 5/22/13)
7. Gardening Club will be working on Sunday, April 14 from 12-2 to till the gardens. Planting will continue on 4/21.
8. Fundraising: Karen Chen needs Cat Cash donations for prizes. She will be holding a fundraiser lobster fest at her house to raise money for staff lounge furniture on 5/18 from 5-11pm. A flyer will be sent to all group list subscribers to sign up for this event.
9. Student raffle: a student raffle will be held in upcoming weeks to raise money to offset cost of Mile of Champions t-shirts. Awards will include teacher raffle offerings, DJ at lunch, song for morning announcements, gym teacher for the day, pizza for a lunch table and skip a mile.

VI. Principal's report: Mrs. McKnight began her update at 8pm.

1. There will be an end-of-year no-referral party on Friday, May 31st from 3-4:30pm. Anyone who does not have any referrals from 4/15 to 5/31 will be eligible to attend. D. Brown will work with Mrs. McKnight to coordinate any parent or food needs.

2. With the coming of warmer weather, it is important that parents and students be mindful of the school dress code. Students wearing inappropriate attire may be asked to go home to change. Spiritwear is making some t-shirts and other clothing available if needed.

3. There are several staffing searches going on for the next school year. Miss Brown and Mr. Thaxton will be leaving RMS. A new elective programs teacher is being interviewed. Mrs. McKnight has asked that parents not share this information with students to ensure continuity.

4. Mrs. Neher has returned and has retransitioned to her classroom. We are all thrilled to have her back and well.

5. Miss Miller will be out for the remainder of the school year. Hosia Sharma will be taking her place. A message to 7th grade parents will be sent out on 4/12.

6. Mrs. McKnight will present findings on the switch from AR to RR (reading requirements) at the next PTSA meeting.

VII. Meeting adjournment by Mrs. Tittle at 8:38pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Denise Aranoff-Brown Date: 4/29/2013, amended 5/22/13
(amendments approved by Ben Tittle, second Deanie Preston on 5/13/13)