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Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2024

The January meeting of the Randolph Heights PTA was called to order at 6:10 by the president.

Welcome and Introduction

President Julie Orman welcomed all attendees. The following PTA executive board members were present:

Julie Orman, President
Tim Williams, Principal
Beth Tierney, Teacher - third grade
Maggie O'Hara, Vice President
Matthew Whitten, Treasurer
Grace Adams, Secretary

Upcoming Events Summary

- February 1 - Read-a-thon begins!
- February 12 - Middle School Principal Panel
- February 23 - Deadline for Priority School choice applications
- March 7 - Read-a-thon Movie Night
- May 6 - 10 - Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 29 - Family Picnic
- June 6 - 5th Grade Graduation
- June 8 - Kindergarten Graduation

Read-a-thon

The Read-a-thon is our 2nd largest fundraiser of the year. It will begin on Feb 1st, and will run through March. The theme this year is DEAR - Dragons Excited About Reading. A packet with more information will be sent home with the students on Thursday.

We will have a movie night on March 7th to celebrate the end of this event, and we'll be selling pizza and candy concessions. This is always a very popular event, we hope to see everyone there!

Principal's Update

- Open house on Thursday for prospective families: We usually have 50-100 people
- School Choice Season: tours have been going well
 - The deadline for priority applications has been moved to Feb 23rd
- A new projector and screen will be installed in the Cafeteria soon, thanks to the PTA!
 - Not sure exactly when, but hopefully before the Talent Show
- TADAs letters went out over winter break
 - What does it mean if your kid is identified?
 - We have a TADAs teacher/class, so services don't change much
 - All kiddos have access to the services
 - Over 60% of our kids are identified
 - Please email or call Mr. Williams with questions
- Questions:
 - Q1. What time is the kindergarten show?
 - A1. All concerts/performance are normally at 6 pm in the evening and 1 pm during the day.
 - Q2. How has the turnout been for school choice tours this year?
 - A2. School tours have been once a week (as opposed to twice a week last year), so we've had larger groups than before, but overall, we've had a few more families than we did last year.

February PTA Meeting

This has been rescheduled from the 26th to the 12th. We'll be hosting a Middle School Principal panel to give out some information about the schools, with plenty of time for Q&A. This will be particularly useful for 4th and 5th-grade families who need to choose a Middle School soon! More information will be shared soon.

Treasurer's Report

- Incoming Funds for the year: We raised more than expected during the Dragon Dash, and if all goes well, we should exceed fundraising goals
- Major expenses: Most planned expenses have been as projected, and all savings funds for large purchases are on track.
- We have spent a lot of money this year, which was our goal! We believe that money is donated by families to be used while their kids are here. We shouldn't have a large surplus!

Treat Fairy

This is a program where families can sign up to bring treats and drinks to stock the staff break room and show RHS teachers and staff our appreciation! There are opportunities every two weeks or so, and we have a lot of availability through the end of May.

- Should we send out newsletters to raise awareness?
- Thank you to everyone who has been able to participate so far!
- Note from Beth Tierney: Brewed coffee tends to be wasted, but they are running low on coffee pods! And everyone loves sugary treats. 😊

Teacher Appreciation Week

- May 6 - 10
- Last year we did two breakfasts, two lunches, and snacks, and it seemed to work well. A few notes to consider so that we can do even better:
 - It was nice to have the catered food options. It is hard for the home cook to estimate the correct amounts for the ~40 teachers and support staff, and it is good to have options for dietary restrictions like gluten-free, vegetarian, and vegan.
 - What makes a good gift? Teachers appreciate any and all gifts, and love thoughtful cards!
- More information and volunteer sign-up sheets will be emailed closer to the date.

Bus Driver Gift Cards

We give these out in the spring as a thank-you for all their hard work. Kids will be making cards, and the PTA will provide Target gift cards.

5th Grade Graduation

- June 6th
- We'll celebrate with pizza and ice cream at Edgecumb

Kindergarten Graduation

- June 7th
- The PTA will be providing cake!