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 [RandolphHeightsSchool](https://www.instagram.com/RandolphHeightsSchool)

MINUTES

September 18, 2023

6:10 - Welcome and Introductions

Julie Orman, President
Maggie O'Hara, Vice President
Matthew Whitten, Treasurer
Grace Adams, Secretary
Beth Tierney, Teacher Representative
Timothy Williams, RHS Principal

Everyone here is a member!

6:20 - Fall Activities Update

The year so far:

- **Open house**
 - PTA sponsored popsicles
 - The new tiered arrival time system worked out well and evened out the attendance
- **Boo hoo breakfast**
 - Donuts, coffee, and orange juice
 - A well-loved tradition
- **Playground playdates**

- More popsicles!
- Very popular this year, we're glad that so many families had a chance to meet

Coming up:

- **Movie Night on Oct 6**

- This event is always very popular
- We'd like this to be a fun community activity, inviting neighbors and friends from other schools
- We're planning to sell popcorn and hot chocolate
- *Volunteer opportunity:*
 - *Concessions during the event*
 - *Cleanup the next day*

- **Dragon Dash on Oct 13th**

- This is our biggest fundraiser
- The kids run laps around the school, and parents are invited to come to cheer them on!
- Celebrate fundraising on a grade level, and sometimes as a whole school
- We use the [getmovinfundhub](#) website
- *Volunteer opportunity:*
 - *We need a new website manager!*
 - *Setup and teardown for the event*
 - *Even just showing up early or staying late to cheer on other grades would be appreciated!*
- We will send out a signup genius email

- **Fall Festival on Oct 26th**

- This is our largest event of the year and is a very fun celebration for the school
- We'll have games, activities, and food
- More volunteers, more fun!
- *Volunteer opportunity:*

- *Setup before the event*
 - *Ticket sales and crowd management*
 - *Running booths and activities*
 - *Selling concessions*
 - *Clean up after the event*
- Note: We will work these in shifts, so everyone will have a chance to enjoy the festival
- We will send out a signup genius email
- **Garden Refresh**
 - Usually we mulch in the Spring, then weed and water in the Summer
 - We have room to plant new plants in the front
 - This will be a 5th-grade pollinator garden project
 - *Volunteer opportunity:*
 - *Garden planting*
 - *Garden maintenance (weeding and watering)*
 - We will share more about this on our social media

General Notes:

- Most projects are created by people's special interests
 - Let us know if you have any new ideas!
- We need a new tax accountant, please contact us if you or someone you know might be interested.
- Library volunteers are always needed
 - Book club on Tuesdays and Thursdays
 - Book checkout and resolving
 - See the school website for more information

6:30 - Principal's Update

We've already had a very good start to the year!

- Numbers:
 - We currently have about 450 students, more than we projected
 - It helps us to be full, as it stabilizes class rosters
 - There is a waiting list for a couple of grades
 - The district doesn't do a Fall adjustment anymore, so we won't be getting an increase in funding
- We were able to keep our TDAS teacher
 - Combined with maker space, as these naturally overlap a lot
- We added a half-time music teacher
 - Possible in part due to the PTA
 - The 5th grade doesn't have regular music sessions yet due to time limitations
- New intervention specialist
 - Help students who need interventions
 - Identify kids who need acceleration
 - Support our 3 tiered approach to intervention
 - Our goal is to meet the needs of all students
- Thank you to the PTA for the 6 stand-alone air conditioning units for the hottest rooms. They made a difference and will be very useful in the future!
- It has been a busy year, but going well!
- **We still need families to fill out the free and reduced lunch form!**
**** This is very important, and affects the budget for next year ****
- Discovery Club update:
 - 3 new programs (cooking classes, D'n'D, and sports) should open up more spots but the wait list is still very long

- DC is trying to recruit, but most high schools in our area don't get out until 3
ACTION ITEM: confirm they are also recruiting at colleges
 - Link on the school website for school-specific volunteers
 - Some positions may require an application form with a background check
ACTION ITEM: Create a volunteer page on the PTA website
ACTION ITEM: Create a PTA Google calendar that can be easily imported
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6:45 - Treasurer's Report

* Please reference the budget summary for more details

- 2 accounts: Primary account and library account
 - Library account is independently funded, but managed by the PTA
- Projected income: \$55k
- Planned expenses: \$97k
 - We are spending down our surplus from the pandemic
 - Our mission is to use the family donations for the kids, not save or invest
 - Including special initiatives at ~ \$38k
 - 6 air conditioners: \$2896.70
 - Projector system: \$25k
 - Drop-down screen, projector, sound system, etc.
 - Was approved last year, but the district changed its vendor over the summer
 - New price: 20 to 21k for the whole system
 - Eukelele set: 2k
 - Playground improvements
 - Gaga pit flooring: current quote is ~ \$6400, but we are still shopping around

- Trees for shade: < \$2k
 - Fall movie night: 3k
 - The proposed budget was approved by unanimous vote.
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6:55 - PTA Priorities: What is important to you?

Please think about what you think the PTA should prioritize.

What matters most to our students, families, and teachers? We'll discuss this at the next meeting.

7:10 - Wrap-up + Adjourn

As always, please reach out with any ideas, questions, or concerns!