

Rieke PTA Meeting  
February 9, 2012

### Meeting Attendance (21)

Kim Davies, Nellie McCarthy, Anne Eddy, Melissa Sanders, Kelly Laboe, Wendy Slocum, Jeni Sellers, Renee Limon, Nikki Dorfman, Jill Anderson, Ashleigh deVilliers, Ariana Ward, Erin Barnett, Cindy Eldkrona, Nicole Olszewski, Jamie Repasky, Shannon Pullen, Ruth White, Sharon Meieran, Andrea Porter, Trina Leschber

### Membership Update

Sharon provided an update on membership status and value of PTA. Currently we have 180 members. Goal of 233 (53 to go!).

- 1) Unit in Good Standing status  
Sharon reported we have completed all our activities to be a Unit in Good Standing. See attached Powerpoint for further information.
- 2) Finance and Budget Report  
Sharon gave a financial update. To date, we have raised \$8,919 (\$27,000 budgeted). There are recent additional donations that have not been recorded as of the time of this meeting. A lot of our fundraising efforts happen in the spring: art fair, book fair, RAT Race, restaurant nights. We are tracking well but we need continued parent support and participation. YTD expenses are \$15,966 (\$22,080 budgeted). YTD P/L -<\$7,047>. Please see attached PowerPoint for further information.
- 3) Officer Slate and Audit Committee – Susan Jewell, Linda Huseby, Jen Merrill are on the slating committee. In March the officer slate will be presented. In April the officers will be voted on and new officers elected. In May the board will hold a joint meeting of outgoing and incoming officers. Please contact a member of the slating committee if you or someone you know is interested in any of the following positions:
  - **President**
  - **Vice President for Membership** (*recruits and tracks membership; backs-up other positions*)
  - **Vice President Elect** (*new this year!*)
  - **Treasurer** (*2-year limited term – new term beginning this cycle*)
  - **Secretary** (*takes minutes at Board and general meetings and does PTA email blasts*)
  - **Volunteer Coordinator** (*solicits and coordinates Rieke community volunteers for certain events*)
  - **Event Coordinator** (*supports event chairs and coordinates certain events*)

- **Communications or Media Coordinator** (*supports PR functions for PTA*)
- **Foundation Co-Representatives** (*reports on auction events and on amount and allocation of Foundation funds*)
- **Fundraising Coordinator** (*coordinates fundraiser events*)

Contact: Jen Merrill [jandamerrill@msn.com](mailto:jandamerrill@msn.com), Linda Huseby [lhuseby@gmail.com](mailto:lhuseby@gmail.com), or Susan Jewell [sjdprods@gmail.com](mailto:sjdprods@gmail.com).

- 4) Parent Education Series: Mark your calendar! Join us in the Rieke library on Wednesday, February 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM to hear Kathy Massarie speak on Compassionate Communication. Kathy Massarie is also speaking May 7<sup>th</sup> at Robert Grey Middle School on a separate topic. Next Up: Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM; Amy Ruono with PPS, "Transitioning to Middle School" All of these speaking engagements are free.
- 5) Green Team - Jamie Repasky reported we are an official Green School. Ms. Smith is in charge of filling out the paperwork to maintain our status each year. Our focus is on recycling and waste reduction. We will send one student to the Green School Summit. The Green Team websites are complete and are on the Rieke website as an option under 'Parent & Community Involvement'.

Rieke reduced our electricity use last year by 6.7% by remembering to turn off lights when rooms are empty and shutting down computers. We received \$2,000 from PPS as an incentive bonus. This year, Rieke has taken on a delamping project to see if we can reduce our energy use while still maintaining appropriate lighting levels. The Green Team also conducted a lunch waste audit: 48 lbs. of food was thrown in the garbage by the students in one day. We had two waste-free lunches. Unfortunately, the lunch trays are not recyclable as the cost of recycling that particular kind of Styrofoam negates any profits that could be yielded from recycling it. We cannot use reusable lunch trays because we do not have an onsite dishwasher. In order to compost, we would need more parent involvement to apply to the city to be a composting school. Parents would have to manage that program.

Rieke's Recycling Programs include: paper in the classrooms, shoes to Farwest Fibers, Plastic Drive during Earthweek, and Elmer's Glue. We are on the wait list to be able to recycle chip bags, energy bar wrappers and writing instruments.

In 2011, Rieke, Bridlemile and Hayhurst held a joint Styrofoam drive, collecting 60 cubic yards over two days and earning \$120 per each green team. In 2012, Rieke and Maplewood held a joint Styrofoam drive, collecting 40 cubic yards in 3 hours and earning \$579 per each green team.

The Green Team meets monthly. Please contact Jamie Repasky at [jamie.repasky@gmail.com](mailto:jamie.repasky@gmail.com) for more information and to join their efforts.

- 6) Principal's Report - Andrea described the new Teacher Evaluation Tool adopted by the district. Described as a landmark agreement between the union and the district, it is the first new evaluation tool in thirty years. The tool is a 26-page evaluation that measures how teachers plan, set goals, assess students, and what they do with that assessment data. Each teacher writes personal improvement goals based on the school-wide improvement plan. Teachers also set personal professional goals such as working in small groups, differentiating curriculum, long-term planning. The new tool requires Andrea to provide written evidence in order to score teachers in 4 domains that each have 4 - 6 areas. The previous tool was described as more subjective. Andrea uses a combination of informal and formal evaluations. In each area, teachers receive a rating of Unsatisfactory, Developing, Proficient, and Distinguished. Most teachers are at the Proficient and Developing levels. This tool gives good feedback to teachers. Experienced teachers get evaluated every other year. The tool is available on the PPS website.

No cross evaluation by peers or parent input is allowed in the evaluation process. If a parent had an issue with a teacher, Andrea recommends that the parent meet with the teacher first and deal with the issue directly. If the parent is not satisfied with the outcome, then Andrea is happy to meet with the parent. Andrea tries to involve teachers in meetings with parents to the extent possible.

Andrea also gave an update on Kindergarten Roundup. Approximately 120 people attended. We still need to know if you have an incoming Kindergartener, so please alert the office and complete the forms. Family Art Night was a success. We had over 200 families participate.

- 7) New Business

Next PTA meeting is on Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.