

## Rieke School PTA

### General Membership Meeting

March 8, 2011

#### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Presiding Officer Dick Hausken at 7:05 PM.

#### **Attendees**

Dick Hausken (President), Andrea Porter (Principal), Sharon Meieran (Vice President), Melissa Sanders ( Fundraising Coordinator), Tania Giger (Events Coordinator), Naomi Cohen (Volunteer Coordinator), Curtis Roth (Secretary), Ruth White, Sharon Scheurer, Michael Reunert, Jeff Dobbins, Matt Reposky, Scott Eddy, Anne Eddy, Erin Barnett, Cathy Biber, David Brooks, Kathy Brooks, Kim Davies, Renee Limon, Cindy Duley, Erica Wells, Carla Asplund, Kate Pagliasotti, Patty Fale

#### **Approval of the Minutes**

Dick noted that the minutes are now posted on the website. The minutes were approved, with the amendment that the general PTA meeting is tonight, not March 15, as written.

#### **Financial Report**

Treasurer Wendy Lear was absent due to illness. Tickets for the Valley Theater are available, says Dick.

#### **Principal's Report**

Andrea Porter noted a late opening tomorrow. Michael Reunert asked for commentary on the new teachers' contract and teachers' effectiveness ratings. Andrea responded that PPS doesn't currently evaluate teachers' effectiveness. Dick asked for Andrea to review how the District currently hires teachers. Andrea noted that there's a three-year probationary period for teachers who are new to the district. Andrea described three phases of hiring teachers.

#### **Rise Up for Rieke Fund Drive Update**

Dick summarized the status of the program. We're trying to raise \$50k to help pay for an additional teacher, which is roughly \$70k including benefits. Patty asked for details on how much individuals should pay. Dick responded with an average of \$200 per family. Rene Limon asked if the donation is tax-deductible – Yes, it is, says Dick.

#### **Survey Monkey Results**

Ruth White led discussion of the Survey results. 52 people have responded to the survey, so far, and it is still open. Most folks see "Classroom Teacher" as the top priority. The Survey also includes comments from respondents. Andrea clarified the meaning of "FTE"—1.0 FTE for a teacher is about \$68k per year. Two teacher's aides also equal \$68k, says Andrea. Discussion turned to "blended" classrooms, where two grades share a classroom. Rieke may have a blended classroom next year, most likely 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades. Andrea noted that some studies support that discipline issues are reduced in a blended classroom. Erica asked whether parents can commit to

helping instruct in some specialty area, with some sort of value placed on that. Andrea noted the answer was that was a useful idea. Andrea spoke in detail on the school budget; money from the District General Fund is for personnel, and a smaller amount is directed to Rieke's own specific, non-personnel needs such as copies, dictionaries, and classroom supplies.

Kate stated that she liked the "Rise Up for Rieke" way of fund-raising, because it narrows down the clutter of multiple appeals for money.

### **PPS Bond Measure Campaign**

Cindy Duley, Anne Hill, and Judith Baker are our Bond Measure Reps. Cindy noted that there are two upcoming phone appeals that volunteers can participate in. Cindy asked for a vote that the PTA endorse the Operating Levy. It was moved and seconded, and the motion passed. She also asked for \$500 from the PTA to support both measures. It was moved and seconded, and the motion passed after discussion.

### **New Business**

Dick noted that we need a nominating committee for officer positions. Sharon Scheurer, Anne Eddy and Cindy Duley volunteered. Michael asked for volunteers to serve on a neighborhood committee discussing local support for the Wilson cluster. He will accept responses by email.

### **Calendar/Announcements**

Late start to school tomorrow.

Rieke Science Fair is April 7. The Art Fair is May 1. .

Next PTA meeting is April 12 , 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

### **Respectfully submitted**

Curtis Roth, Secretary