

Ridgewood Avenue Home & School Association Meeting Minutes



Monday June 5, 2023 - RAS Courtyard

Officers present: Katie Renoff - President; Cara Sweet - VP; Rupa Coutinho – Treasurer; Hilary Trevenen - Secretary

Principal's Report

Since We Last Met

- Spring MAP results will be mailed home soon and the NJSLA was completed for each grade.
- Transition activities have been completed by administration
- The RAS school play, Descendents, was a success with almost 200 children participating
- Spring chorus and band concerts were held on two different evenings.
- Rhino Romp and Field day were successful events.

On The Horizon

- On June 7th, the 4th graders have a visit from Doreena Williamson, author of The Story of Juneteenth
- Special education students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will have a wildlife visit.
- We are celebrating Pride month school wide
- Move up day will be June 9th for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. 6th graders will have their move up day on the last day of school, June 15th.
- Staff updates - we are looking to hire two Spanish teachers and one part time SEL counselor
- Skyward is now closed for teachers to enter grades and comments. Any questions about grades should be emailed directly to teachers.

6th Grade

- Fountain Springs field trip tomorrow.
- Promotion ceremony and party are scheduled for next Wednesday evening.
- BBQ and memory books during the day next Wednesday.

Thank Yous

- Thank you to Jocelyn for being the school's BOE rep this year and also to Amanda Goodwin for being the teacher rep.
- Thank you to the outgoing officers and parents who are permanently moving on from RAS.
- Thank you to Katie for your time, grace and expertise as the HSA President the last two years.

Faculty Report (Amanda Goodwin)

- Thank you for a great year. HSA is always going above and beyond and we are thankful for the partnership

BOE Report (Jocelyn Gottlieb)

- BOE is having the last meeting of the year this week
- BOE members will have a summer retreat and the focus will be on how to support the mental health of the students.
- Highlights from last BOE meeting - end of the year is busy. Piloting volleyball as an actual high school sport. Booster club is funding the first year and will be built into the budget going forward

President's Report (Katie Renoff)

- Thank you to Heather Ballentyne and Cara Sweet for work on Descendents! Thank you to all the parent volunteers.
- Teacher Appreciation Week- Thank you to Beata and Emily - new things this year that teachers appreciated
- Thank you to Jill and Corina. Rhino Romp was a success. Ran smoothly and kids had a blast.
- Field Day was a success and hot. Thank you to Stephanie and Maria Sanders
- 6GP - ongoing and so many volunteers. Thanks to Tara Arnett for leading the charge.
- Thank you to Kim and Cara for class parents and library volunteers.
- Thank you to outgoing officers - Cara Sweet, Hilary Trevenen and Rupa Coutinho for your time.
- Most of the committee positions for next year have been filled with either parents continuing or parents who have found someone and have been training them.
- Kara Dehnad will be doing Discovery but could use a partner. Enrichment is in need of any volunteers.

Treasurer's Report (Rupa Coutinho)

- Currently have \$39k in untagged funds
- 6GP raised \$13k for activities.
- Most of the current activity is for rhino romp and field day day expenses. TAW raised funds almost exactly to cover the expenses.
- Put a deposit down for playground - 3 different pieces - ninja warrior type structures - August installation expected with final payment coming then.
- Enrichment activity expenses are coming forward.

Committee Reports

Class Parents (Cara Sweet) - Classes have money left over and parents of 3rd, 4th and 5th graders are brainstorming ways to use it, either parties or trinkets. 6th graders already have a party so 6th graders will receive a poster from the grade photo from field day.

Library (Cara Sweet) - If you are a current volunteer, Mr. Aumack is having old titles pulled out and gifting to students or teachers who want them. Whatever is left over will be put out at the end of the year. Hilary Trevenen and Dierdre Carlough will take over library volunteers in the coming year. If you want to volunteer, look out for the sign up in the fall.

School Supplies (Kristina Donnelly) - email will go out in the next few days about ordering school supplies for September.

Vote

Funding Requests:

\$500 Fitzgerald's gift card - The teachers will be having their end of year celebration. Asking for GC to the restaurant. Cara Sweet makes a motion, Stephanie Haller seconds. **Approved**

Open discussion

Darius Dehnad brought up concern if the bylaws had been followed. Specifically, were the open officer and committee chairs advertised to the RAS parents in an appropriate way.

Suggestion offered - District wide communication about outgoing officers/open positions in all schools to come at the same time next year in multiple ways (email, Facebook posts, etc).

Nomination of officers for Fall of 2023

The following is the slate of officers to be voted in for August 2023

President - Stephanie Haller

VP - Kristina Donnelly

Secretary - MT Reinert

Treasurer - Carol Florczak (taking over a resignation)

Tara Arnett - Makes a motion, **Marylou Cabrera** seconds. All in favor but one (Kara Dehnad abstains). **Approved.**

Meeting Minutes

Approval of April Minutes.

Katie Renoff makes a motion, **Maria Sanders** seconds. **Approved**

Next RAS HSA meeting is September 8th at 8:45am in RAS Cafeteria