Ridgewood Avenue Home & School Association
Meeting Minutes
Friday October 6th, 2017

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Officers present: Nicole Quinn - President; Keri Napolitani - VP, Tara Arnett - Secretary, Lauren Johnson - Treasurer
Absent: Gretchen Koss - VP

President Nicole Quinn called the meeting to order at 8:48am

Principal’s Report (Mr. Donovan)

Odds & Ends
  Celebration Week of Respect all week
  Student Council Induction Ceremony Today
  Half Day on Monday, October 9th - Professional development day in the afternoon for staff
  MAP Testing almost finished with first round. 2nd round will be in January.
  Red Ribbon Week coming up in the Last Week of October
  5th Graders Fort Lee Field Trips this month
  On October 18th Sgt Tom Rich will be here with a presentation on bullying. He will speak to students during the day and parents in the evening. Part of the presentation will include an online app for anonymous bully reporting.
  On October 26th- 6th Graders have their Edgar Allen Poe Field Trip. Classes have a mini unit focused on Poe leading up to Halloween.
  October 31st- Halloween Celebration - Email went out this week with the details.

Looking Forward
  On October 30th - the Board of Education meeting will take place at RAS.
  November 1st - 3rd, 6th graders go on the Buehler challenger trip in Paramus. Students apply for positions and complete a space mission.
  Talent show will take place November 3rd.

Discuss
  Parent Google Workshops - Well attended. Will do again, consensus to hold a 3rd grade specific workshop.
  Would like to offer Over parenting Workshop from the author of “How to Raise an Adult” again in the evening this time.
  Email Communications - comes up several times a year. System will never be perfect. Principals and school officials discuss frequently. We feel that the 2pm emails are the best solution.
  Maker space/SAFE Room - are up and running. 3,4,5th in Maker space every day at recess. Donor plaque installed. SAFE room still needs to hire a few staffers.
  Pomptonian - Samples on hand. School very happy with the food so far. Kids seem to like the food as well. Vending machine will not have soda.
RAS will sign up as a WE School. The charity based organization helps you find the type of organization to become involved in. There will be a kick off meeting to talk about what the program is, how kids and teachers can use it.

Faculty Report (Mrs. Goodwin)

Thank you to the class parents that volunteered

BOE Report (Betsy Ginsburg)

The Board has had 2 meetings since school began. Coffee & Conversations at all 4 schools. We can always be reached via schools website/board of ed page

Sold some financial notes have been sold to fund preliminary work on projects from the referendum. A lot happening behind the scenes.

BOE finalized its goals for the year - Curriculum/AP Capstone, Review Technology initiatives including maker spaces, oversight of facilities projects, keep public informed of ongoing projects.

Treasurer’s Report (Lauren Johnson)

Ended September with $30,000 in the bank. Most committed to programs/projects
Cash available to spend 2,563

President’s Report (Nicole Quinn)

Lots of September meetings with committees - everyone up and running
New Spirit Wear committee - looking to do a sale late October/early November.
Mid November is National Education Week - will plan activities for teachers and staff
Discovery - new classes underway. We had some technical issues with the Minecraft Class will try to re run in the spring.

Committee Reports

School Photos - Lisa Kolberg. Everything went well. Everyone should have received and returned proofs. Pictures should be back in a couple of weeks.
Enrichment - Lavi Raghavan - our second program is coming next week. ‘Austin the Unstoppable’ . Parents are invited. Committee members visited a vendor showcase to start looking for next year.
Sheets n Treats - Deadline is 10/16. May extend because of technical difficulties. Doesn’t support some browsers, suggest using Google Chrome. Profit slightly higher with paper form, but you have to pick up from school.
Library - Lucilla Giantomenico - volunteers up and running. Looking to add another training for more volunteers. Will distribute through class parents.
Book Fair - Ellen Regazzi. Nov 14 - 17 to coincide with conferences and National Education week. Will offer books that tie in with school wide initiatives like 100 books and Battle of the Books. Will offer extended afternoon hours again this year, really increased sales last year. Set Up is Monday 11/13

GREF - Duval Graham. 25th anniversary gala coming up on April 7th at GRCC. Save the date. The Ed foundation raises money to support all of our schools RAS has seen the 6th grade science lab, and refurbishment of the auditorium. Ashenfelter 8K on Thanksgiving is the biggest fundraiser.
Harlem Wizards - coming up on December 10th at 1pm. Tickets will be sold online 2-week preview sale for RAS only. Should start in mid October. Wizards will also visit students at Recess.
GR Benefits - Mary O’Farrell. Hurricane Harvey fundraiser open until the 15th. Kid stuff coupon book sale has closed.

Thanks You’s
School photos - Julie Stolte & Lisa Kolberg
Class Parent Selections - Tara Arnett and Julie Stolte
Puerto Rican Aid Drive - Ms. Rodriguez and Marylou Cabrera

Funding Requests (Mr. Donovan)
None

September Meeting Minutes.
Julie Stolte makes a motion to approve, Duval Graham seconds. Motion passes.

Next RAS HSA meeting - November 3rd at 8:45 a.m. in the RAS Cafeteria.
Adjourned at 9:40 am.