

RBHS PTO MEETING
Held on Monday, September 8, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 by President, Pam Powers.

OPENING CEREMONIES: Pledge of Allegiance and introductions

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS: Pam thanked Dr. Skinkis and Ms. Smetana for attending our meeting.

Our tax exempt status has been put into official place along with our name change.

Our Board now has four Vice Presidents, Philanthropy, Music, Membership and Communications. We have new programs and fundraisers. We are very excited for the new school year!

ADMINISTRATION: Dr. Skinkis reported: District updates: The budget will be approved tomorrow night.

The next phase of construction will begin on 10/6 for the bike path will begin so please try to avoid First Avenue. This path will also be pedestrian friendly. There will be turn lanes and safety signals added for pedestrians. Sidewalk/path improvements are being worked on as a joint venture with the RBHS, the villages and the county. This project should be done in about 1 to 1 ½ years. Curriculum-The Board approved the proposal to bring theatre back to RBHS. The play will be, "Our Town" and will be performed in November. The Board did recommend that we include more students and give them the opportunity to participate. Our current enrollment is 1588. Our freshman class cap size per class is 32.

Technology: This is a pilot year for the Google Chrome Books. All the teachers have this

We are working with Google docs and the Cloud. We are evaluating a 1-1 initiative with Chrome Books.

Some classes are already piloting. Technology survey: 95% of students have access via their phones, computers or tablets. Stadium Update: The field currently has drainage issues and the track is peeling.

The turf floats in heavy rain. Nets were installed under the stadium. We are currently looking to have graduation in the main gym or at an off-site location. The bleachers in the main gym need repair as they are not in compliance. We need to replace the railings, etc. and hope to have this done within the next ten years. Parking is a problem around RBHS. We pay \$18,000 a year to use facilities and pay the Village of Brookfield to park on Rockefeller. The BOE is still considering moving the tennis courts off site to make room for additional parking. Another option is to slide the tennis courts closer to Hollywood School and add parking. We are working with the BOE to take on all concerns and looking for the best plan. Further information about improvements can be found at the RBHS website under the BOE.

PRINCIPAL REPORT: Kristin thanked the PTO for the Freshman Family Welcome and the Welcome Back Breakfast. Our Open House this year had more parents attend than last year. Kristin reported that all students are actively engaged in the 1-1 pilots. Schoology is being used by all teachers. We are encouraging all teachers to use technology. There is a video tutorial for all parents and will be at all parent teacher conferences. Grade level assemblies took place during September. Testing information will be coming out soon. We will no longer have the PSAE but will be participating in the new state assessment called PARC. All juniors will test two times during the year, March and late April. The ACT with writing will be taken on March 3rd. Fall play tryouts will be tomorrow and we have over 40 students interested. There is a new club called Girls Who Code led by teachers. All language clubs are back!

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A motion was made by Doris Perry to approve the May meeting minutes, second by Kathi Parisi. Motion passed, minutes were approved. Membership Report: Membership total is 401 of which 387 are families and 14 are staff. We need to encourage more staff to join the PTO.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Renee Buksa presented the June 30, 2014 financial reports the PTO and the Music Sponsors. We did better than we initially budgeted. Music Sponsors' fundraisers were very successful. A motion was made by Kathy Barcal to approve the June 30, 2014 financial reports presented, second by Sue Huhndorf-Payne. Motion passed, financial reports were approved. Proposed Budget for PTO and Music Sponsors for 2014-2015 was presented by Renee Buksa. Renee reported that our dues were up. We added new fundraisers, the decals and the RBHS Boutique. We

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Budgeted \$500 for this fundraiser. We don't know yet how this event will do as it is the first time we are attempting to do this. We increased our grant budget by \$500 and we added \$300 for gifts and memorials. Bumper stickers were a new expense for us this year. We reduced accounting and filing fees. We increased directory expense since we have more families. Music Sponsors: We are not hosting the IMEA festival this year. Candy sales were increased (selling through end of September). Added line items for magnet sales, scholarships for summer camp and teacher's wish list. We would like to get our own tax identification this year so we added this as an expense as well. Candy Longo has come on board the Music Sponsors as an assistant to Doris. Candy's husband, Tom, is going to assist the Music Sponsors in obtaining their 501 (3) c status. A motion was made by Kathy Barcal to approve the two budgets presented for PTO and Music Sponsors for the 2014 – 2015 year, second by Kathi Parisi. Motion passed, budgets were approved.

The Financial Review committee will review financials for both the PTO and the Music Sponsors. The committee is: Sandy Bakalich, Raul Sanchez and Lynn Waterloo.

FRESHMAN FAMILY WELCOME: This is the second year for this event. We would like to ask the teachers if speeches could be cut just a bit to allow time for questions and answers from the parents. Let's collect the questions in advance. Can this event be in the auditorium? The pillars in the cafeteria blocked the parent's view of the speakers. Thank you to the SA students that helped out with check in and giving the tour to the incoming freshman.

STAFF WELCOME BACK BREAKFAST: Kathi Parisi reported that all went very well! We arrived at 6 a.m. to unload and set up in the teacher's lounge. We had two families donate. Photos from this event were posted on Facebook. Expenses were \$200.09.

OPEN HOUSE/FAMILY NETWORKING: Thank you Sue for all you did to organize the Open House and prepare the directory for the PTO. Thank you to Kathi for setting up at Open House. 173 directories were picked up at Open House. We will send out an E-blast to remind families to pick up their directories.

MUSIC SPONSORS: Doris Perry reported that the season has started. The band marched in the Von Steuben parade on Lincoln Ave. The Chamber Concert is on Sept. 22nd. The Choir Concert is on Oct. 2nd. The cheesecake sale will kick off on Oct. 3rd.

COMMUNICATIONS: Liz reported that there is interest from two individuals to help with the website and photography. Thank you Liz for all you have done and are currently doing with our communications. We can obtain photos from the Rouser and the Clarion. Idea: Should we video tape our PTO meetings? We could ask Mr. Prokes.

NEW INITIATIVES: We are selling sport and club decals for \$5 each. So far this fundraiser has been very successful. We have sold 225 decals.

RB BOUTIQUE: Kathi Parisi reported that the boutique will be an event where slightly used to new dresses and accessories will be available for purchase at a minimal cost. Donations will be accepted not only from RBHS families but also from others in our area. We would also like to have coupons available for hair, nails, etc. to local salons. The date of the event is Saturday, March 14th to be held at the Hollywood Community House. There will be a planning meeting on 9/30 at 7 p.m. in Room 201. We would like to open this to the community.

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM: This new program may not happen this year. We would like to offer a leadership program like the J. Kyle Braid program in years past. We would like to offer it to more students. The PTO is looking into this with Mr. Passarella and Ms. Hayes. We need a dedicated fundraiser to support this program. Please let us know if you have any ideas.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT: Kathi Parisi reported that this event will take place on May 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at Irish Times. We will offer wine, beer, soda and appetizers. PTO would like to do something for all of the volunteers who help out throughout the school year.

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TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY: There is a week in May dedicated to Teacher Appreciation. The PTO would like to do something on May 6th for the RBHS faculty and staff. Kathi is working on this. This is in addition to our teacher appreciation lunch that is held in February.

RB THEATER/FALL PLAY: Sheila Daily presented the proposal to bring back theater to RBHS that was presented to the School Board. Students created a Facebook page, t-shirts and marched in the local parade to promote bringing back theater to RBHS. Sheila reported that they are looking for a quality theater program to be at RBHS. A presentation was made to Dr. Skinkis and Ms. Smetana in July. Maria Silas and Sheila met with the Executive Board to discuss the proposal as well. In August, the Board of Ed approved the proposal. The play, "Our Town" will be performed in November. Auditions will be held tomorrow. Parents will be contacted to discuss how volunteers can help with the play. We were informed that Ms. Smetana is a point person for the Illinois High School Theater Festival. Check out their website. We should contact feeder schools about their theater program.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Veteran's Day assembly will be held on 11/11/14. We Are RB will be held on 12/3/14. The next PTO meeting will be held on Monday, Oct. 6th at 7 p.m. We will have a presentation called, Who You Should Know at RB to Help Your Student Succeed.

If any students need service hours, Feed Our Community Event will be held on Oct. 18th at the North Riverside Village Commons. Check out the website: www.outreachprogram.org

A motion was made by Kathi Parisi to adjourn the meeting, second by Kathy Barcal. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by,
Kathy Barcal - Secretary