

**Ridgewood High School Home & School Association
Meeting Minutes for February 11, 2020**

In Attendance: Sara Beinstein, Sheila Brogan, Kelly Buchsbaum, Alwyn cheng, Joanne Cheng, Lena Christinger, Kristin Conneen, Gail Cutler, Theresa Gregorio, Susan Harrison, Carolyn Holt, Medha Kirtane, Isabelle Leluc, Liz Mccarthy, Kathy Marshall, Anneke Meinardi, Christine OMeara, Ruth Parks, Karen Sheehy, Sandy Pires, Sandi Pleeter, Evelyn Tantalean, Fran Turso.

- I. **Call to Order:** Susan Harrison called the meeting to order at 7:30. Meeting agenda had been made available via eNews and attendees were reminded to sign in.

- II. **Approval of January Minutes:** A correction was made to the minutes in the BOE report, section IX, 1 board seat is open for 1 year and not 2 years as previously reported. A motion to approve the January meeting minutes was made by Kathy Marshall and seconded by Kelly Buchsbaum. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

III. **Class Reports:**

Senior Class (Class of 2020): The fashion show is Sunday 03/08 with a live and silent auction at the Hilton in Pearl River. They are still looking for volunteers to help out during the day.

Junior Class (Class of 2021): Sandi Pleeter. There are a couple of fundraisers. 02/27 Parkwood Deli no cook night. The cost of the meal is \$35, and Parkwood will donate \$5 from each meal ordered to the class of 2021.

03/14 Fitness fundraiser, \$25 per class, either trampoline or hammock class. 100% of the proceeds will go back to the class of 2021.

03/28 Parent social at Anna Salerno's. More details to follow soon.

Sophomore Class (Class of 2022): Parent social planning and date firming up.

You can still sign up for the sophomore semi-formal through 02/19. The semi-formal will take place 02/28 from 7pm to 10:30pm at Macaluso's in Hawthorne.

Freshman Class (Class of 2023): Absent.

IV. **Student Liaison Report:**

Absent.

V. **Principal's Report:** Tom Gorman

Jamboree was a huge success. Lots of money was raised for scholarships.

The RHS quarterly letter went out and it highlights the creation in the district of 5 (teaching, learning, culture, community and governance) different beliefs to become a lifelong learner and be exposed to the habits of learning. Changes in the curriculum will be made in the upcoming months to incorporate the beliefs and habits for the school and their departments. New lessons will be created with the habits of learning: critical thinking, resiliency, creativity and empathy.

Vape detectors have been installed in all bathrooms at RHS.

The Wizards games were a huge success. This year, there were two games and they were both sold out.

Asian Fest is coming up 03/01

Greece trip is coming up too from 02/13 to 02/20

The band just returned from California

VI. **Assistant Principal: Basil Pizzuto**

A letter will be sent out about the installation of the vape detectors in the bathroom. Vaping is a big problem. Hoping these new devices will help with reducing the use of vaping and also act as a deterrent. Students caught using these products will be subject to disciplinary actions.

Journalism teacher, Mr. Dolby feels kids are not up to what's going on in the world. In his class, kids walk through the hall and give the news. They also use an app.

Student Governance switched from purely fundraising to improving how things are run at school. For example, they are looking at vacation days.

47 students will be traveling to Greece in 2 days.

Trip to Morocco in the summer.

Central European Trip next year going to Auschwitz and other European Cities.

12 kids going to Spain.

25 kids going to France.

Basil is currently working on a page listing all the fundraisers during the school year. It was also suggested to create a list of all the trips available for the upcoming year as it can get confusing and hard to get the information.

VII. **Assistant Principal / Guidance Report: Jeff Nyhuis**

DECA going to Nashville 03/03

SAT coming 03/14. PRE-ACT will be offered to sophomore. Lots of sophomore took the PSAT in October.

03/12 College Fair, 90 colleges are already signed up.

Naviance, there are new features for sophomore, do what we are, narrowing on their strengths, and what are the employable degrees.

VIII. **Faculty Report Ruth Parks/Medha Kirtane**

The German exchange is planned for the end of March.

The French exchange is leaving in April.

Asian Fest is scheduled for the students Friday, February 28. It's an all-day event starting with representations from Japan, China, The Philippines and Korea.

30 kids are going to the Northern New Jersey Symposium. It's a field trip.

IX. **BOE Report: Sheila Brogan/Dan Fishbein**

The high priority projects at RHS are upgrading the fire alarm system, replacing the HVAC equipment and improving the drainage in the courtyard. Other projects under consideration are upgrading the ceilings.

There is also a proposal to add a Performing Arts Center at RHS. The auditorium would take place of band room and parking. It's a tight property. Over a 1/3 of the students at RHS either participate in the music or theatre program.

The BOE looks about financing the bond. RHS is eligible for state aid to pay for the debt. The presentation about financing the projects is online on the BOE website.

The BOE is working on the Holiday calendar. 2 calendars have been approved. Schools will be closed during Lunar New Year, Eid and Diwali. The February break has changed next year and will be 02/12, 02/15 and 02/16. 2021-2022 calendar school would start 09/01.

Super Science Saturday is 02/29. Dr Labowski has students to present projects, she really has embraced Super Science Saturday and every year, more High School students are engaged.

The BOE is currently working on the budget. People will vote on the budget 04/21.

X. **Executive Boards Updates:**

No updates.

Theresa Gregorio mentioned that PG20 moved into their building space.

Class of 2023 mentioned there will be another no cook diner fundraising planned and they will also sell banners.

A question was asked about using the weight room in the morning before class. The room is closed because no teachers are there but it's open in the evening for students to use.

XI. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Isabelle Leluc, Secretary