



RIDGEWOOD
HIGH SCHOOL

RHS HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, March 12, 2024– 7:30 PM

RHS Learning Commons + Zoom

In Attendance (in-person and ZOOM): Valerie Auyeung, Sheila Brogan, Medha Kirtane, Laura McGrath, Laura Waisnor, Mary Micale, Kelly Nakasone, Jeff Nyhuis, Alison Stephens, Ben Strauss, Carolyn Holt, Dave Bailey, The Korean Parent Association President Hyewon Jun and members of the KPA, Isabella Katsaros and 12 Zoom attendees, Danielle Woods

*Other attendees participated in the ZOOM but their names were not registered.

I. Call to Order/Welcome: Kelly Nakasone

Kelly Nakasone called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM. Meeting information was made available via eNews, emails and GroupSpot posts. All 12 virtual attendees were accepted through the ZOOM meeting.

II. Call to Order/Approval Past Minutes/HSA Report: Kelly Nakasone

Meeting notes were approved by Laura McGrath and seconded by Alison Stephens.

III. RHS Student Report: Isabella Katsaros and Ben Strauss

- Isabella Shared various events around RHS this month
 - Valentine's Day was great. Singing Grams delivered
 - Girls Winter Track Shuttle Hurdle Relay team came in 6th in the state. Congratulations Paige Brant, Bea Brassel, Anna McHugh and Kennedy Lubkemann
 - Hockey-Made it to Semi Finals, Quarter Final Champs
 - Super Science Saturday was well attended and a success, March 2nd
 - DECA Chapter traveled to Atlantic City
 - Grow Up Ridgewood Club-International Women's month Assembly, Feminist Speakers coming soon
 - State Testing for Juniors was the week of March 11
 - Briana Scurry Presentation, American Retired Soccer Goalkeeper
 - Band Traveled to California
 - New Players Shrek Performance was sold out
 - Girls Swim team were Sectional Champs
 - Asian Fest was a tremendous Success

- Ben Strauss, Talked about AI(Artificial Intelligence)
 - What can RHS do to Incorporate AI into RHS?
 - How to incorporate AI into the Curriculum
 - How as a school can we prepare our student body for AI and what jobs will be available within the AI field?
 - Talked about Chat GPT, New App, over 100 Million subscribers
 - Nvidia Stock, gave facts on the success of this stock

-Gen AI is going to be a Trillion Dollar Industry in the next couple years

IV. RHS Faculty Reports: Medha Kirtane

- Faculty meeting about the AI teaching skills for this new changing AI World
- AI is putting a tremendous new burden on core classes. Lots of back checking to make sure students are not using AI to write papers.
- The Wellness Department Acquired a grant. It has brought us two new Documentaries: "Like"(social media) and "Angst"(social anxieties), 50 minutes each.
- Black History Month was great and super inspirational by students and staff
- The Year of the Dragon Luncheon was a hit and success. Christina Lee and her students hosted this lunch to kick off the month.
- We honored 17 students with the Maroon Award, Character Award
- Super Science Saturday was a great success and well attended
- Art World- Musical Maroon and White
- Youth Art Month. March 20th will be a reception in the Ed Center
- International Trips- The Upside is the students are learning so much. The challenge to the students is how to keep up with the work while they are away

V. Board of Education Report: Sheila Brogan, BOE President

- Talked about the Elections and its challenges. Election date changes
- Terms were extended for the board members. Caused a change for the amount of members elected each year. In November this year, there will be 3 seats open, 2 seats will be 3 year terms and 1 seat will be a 1 year term. Then in 2025 the 1 year seat term will turn into a 3 year term seat. More information to come.
- State Aid- We got our figures. Over the last 7 years there has been readjustment.
- Over 400 districts that had been underfunded gained money over the last 7 years. 147 districts that lost money, either from over funding or had drops in enrollment. Our district was underfunded. So for the last 6 years we have been given more money each year. Next year we will receive \$515 thousand dollars. All good News. 2025/26, not sure what will happen because it's the end of the 7 years.
- This month there are self board evaluations and those will be sent to the state.
- RHS Fields- We had thought Exchange, Over 1500 people participated.
- Fields are continuing to be worked on and the end goal is to come up with a permanent fix.
- New Website for the District will be in the works in the Summer. Hoping to have it up and running by the Fall.
- Budget Discussions discussed in Depth. March 18th the budget will be looked at by the public. April 29th will be the Public Hearing. We can't do much until we get the approval from the state.
- Talked about "Liked and "Angst", Social Media Presentations

VI. Class Reports

PG 24-(presented by Kelly Nakasone)

- Fashion Show Auction was wonderful, thank you to Colleen Tansey and Rena Christie for chairing that.
- PG build has started. Senior parents please volunteer to help build.
- Graduation email has gone out to Senior parents

Class of 2026- Social 4/11 at the Office to raise money for PG

Class of 2027- Social 4/18 at Steel Wheel

HSA- Street Sign Fundraiser. Money raised is slated to go to refurbishing the campus center. \$60 for signs. Orders due beginning of May and delivered by Memorial Day.

VII. Principal's Reports

Jeff Nyhuis:

- Campus Center- Architect coming 3/12 to look at the Campus Center on how to improve and make it better for all. The center is used all the time for everything. It's time for a Upgrade.
- AI is a hot topic. Jeff is talking to staff to help them use effectively. Planning breakout sessions to help staff navigate AI.
- RHS Field Day, June 5th
 - ½ day celebration
 - Will Use part of the time for Senior Yearbook signing
 - Looking to get Coach Stroker and Ali Stroker in to speak
 - Game show in our gym
- Late Start- Working with Ben Strauss on feedback from students and staff.
- 3/22, Women in the workforce. Looking to raise money for a cause.
- Fields Update:
 - Sports Care is here fixing the field and hoping it will be done by next week. Just waiting for the weather to clear. Rubber Pellets are here and ready to be laid, just need to wait for good weather. Practices are scheduled and busing is all ready.
 - March 14th Spring Sports start

Danielle Wood:

- Danielle gave a shout out the RHS Weekly View
- Upcoming Important Dates:
 - March 20th, Youth Art month
 - April 3rd, Read Across America
 - Spring Break, March 25-April 1st
 - April 9th, Junior Semi Formal at The Brownstone
 - April 10th, Schools Closed
 - April 11th, 9th Grade Dance
- Talked about the 6 International Trips offered to the RHS Students

Principals Report: Dave Bailey

-Spring Testing Time line

3/11-3/14, NJ State Graduation Proficiency Assessment

4/29-5/2, NJSLA Ela&Math Regular Spring Administration, 9th Grade Test, Delayed opening for non test takers

5/6-5/17, AP Exams, Regular Schedule for RHS

5/20-5/21, NJSLA Science Administration, 11th Grade Test, Delayed opening for non test takers

-2024-2025 RHS Testing Scheduling Timeline Discussed

-College Speaker Series Panel on 4/25 at 7pm, Virtual

-RHS College Fair, 3/19, 7pm-9pm in the gym

-3/20, Ramapo College Fair, 5:30pm

-Went into great detail about the Senior Internship Experience(Pilot)

-College Admissions Updates, The Future of Test Optional, FAFSA Rollout Delays, The Future of Legacy Admissions

-Popular RHS Colleges List mentioned

-Senior Survey will be out in June

-81.2% of RHS Seniors were admitted into their top 3 choices

Kelly Nakasone: Any questions, Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM. Minutes respectfully submitted by Meghan Agatep, Secretary

*Next RHS HSA meeting: **Tuesday, March April 16, 2024- 7:30 PM** - RHS Learning Commons + Zoom*