

**Minutes of the  
Ridgeview Middle School Parent-Teacher-Student Association Meeting  
November 10, 2009**

A called meeting of the RMS PTSA was convened on November 10, 2009 at 7:03 pm in the Media Center of Ridgeview Middle School in Gaithersburg, MD, pursuant to notice duly given.

Attendees: Holly Parker (President), Elana Hoopes (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President), Donna Joe (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President), Dohi Shin (Treasurer), Lisa Torvik (Secretary), Carol Levine (School Principal), Feri Jahanmir, Eric Minkoff, Valerie Fuster, Susan Morrison, Diane Schmid, Camille Law, Karen Chen, Tracy Husted, Nancy Ketterer, Miriam Mokuena, Jim Keenan, Marcie Blackman, Barb Textoris, Rebecca Hallam, Sue Wingate, Tara Murayama, Wendy Shokra, Angela King

- I. **Welcome/Call to Order** – Holly Parker called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- II. **Approval of Minutes** – Minutes from the October 13, 2009 PTSA meeting were distributed. When a quorum was attained during the meeting, Lisa Torvik asked for a motion to waive the reading of and to approve these minutes. The motion was made by Tara Murayama and seconded by Diane Schmid and unanimously approved.
- III. **Treasurer's Report** – Dohi Shin reviewed the budget that was approved at the October PTSA meeting. Dohi noted that a donation recorded on the budget is targeted for the school. In addition the Sally Foster money still needs to be taken out. Dohi also shared the successful audit for the school year from 2008-2009. A motion was made to approve the budget by Sue Wingate and it was seconded by Wendy Shokrai.
- IV. **Principal's Report** – Dr. Levine gave a presentation on extracurricular/sports eligibility in middle schools. Students who have a 2.0 GPA with no more than one failing grade in the previous marking period will be eligible to participate in any extra curriculum teams at the middle school level. In addition, Dr. Levine shared some research on students at risk of being ineligible. Dr. Levine shared that ineligibility is an indicator of student drop out rates at the high school level. Dr. Levine provided information on Ridgeview's ineligibility statistics which showed a decline in ineligible students although the numbers remain higher than the school would prefer.
- V. **President's Report**– Holly Parker mentioned that there is no PTSA meeting in December. In addition, there will be no KEY newsletter in December. Holly shared information about a flyer that was distributed on the tables to help the school win \$1,000. Holly reminded committee chairs to stay within their budgets and to provide a write up about their committee when their event or activity is complete. This will assist future chairs with an understanding of the committee they agree to lead. Holly also discussed Cat Cash and asked for donations for cat cash prizes. A discussion on the use of cat cash focused on the purpose of cat cash and how it is used as well as the measurement of success for the program.
- VI. **Committee Reports**

**MCCPTA** -. Nancy Ketterer reviewed some of the priorities of MCCPTA. In addition, one question that the MCCPTA requested information about was the success of the bathroom

renovation projects of MCPS. Nancy asked about the bathroom renovations that were completed at Ridgeview and Dr. Levine mentioned that it did make a difference for the school.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Coordinator** – No report at this time.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Coordinator** – No report at this time.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Coordinator** – No report at this time.

**Quince Orchard Cluster** – Tracy Husted stated that the convention is coming up in Frederick next week. A discussion took place about whether or not the PTSA should pay for a representative to attend. At this time, this is not a budgeted item; however Holly stated that the PTSA would have no issue funding this if there is a PTSA member interested in attending. Anyone interested in attending should see Holly directly. Another point for the cluster reviewed by Tracy was the issue of allocation of resources distributed to schools based on the type of school (elementary, middle or high school) versus the number of students. There does not seem to be a clear understanding of this rule. The cluster will be looking into this issue more. Jim Keenan mentioned that Ridgeview's renovation plan is looking good for the school board and may actually start next year if the funding is approved.

**Staff Appreciation** – Val Fuster mentioned that a teacher's lunch for the holidays will be held on December 17<sup>th</sup> and bakers and volunteers will be needed.

**Quince Orchard** - Sue Wingate reported that Clue will be at the High School and that many sports playoffs are taking place this month for Quince Orchard's successful sports programs.

**Jones Lane Liaison** - Val Fuster reported that the Jones Lane Holiday Shop will be held on Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. In addition, Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> Jones Lane's Bingo night will be held at Ridgeview. Students are needed to help at this event. Val also mentioned that December 1<sup>st</sup> is a meeting at Jones Lane about the Rachel Carson learning center moving to Jones Lane Elementary School.

**Thurgood Marshall Liaison** – Elana Hoopes reported for Randy Poli. Elana shared that the Thurgood Marshall Holiday shop is next Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> and additional student volunteers are needed for this event.

**Fields Road Liaison** - Tara Murayama reported that Fields Road received a parent involvement grant for increasing involvement of Hispanic families.

**NAACP** - Miriam Mokuena mentioned that parents met and brainstormed ideas for increasing the group's participation. The group decided that there will be social and service oriented activities to help increase participation. In addition, Miriam has been in contact with two college students who speak to students about college experiences and how to prepare for college from elementary school on. Miriam also mentioned that the Heritage Café preparation is beginning. This year the Heritage Café will sponsor a drive to increase membership in the bone marrow registry. Donna Joe provided information about the need for bone marrow registrants who are African American and multi-cultural.

**Staff Liaison** - Feri Jahamnir reported that over 900 volunteer hours have been reported for the month of October. In addition, Feri mentioned that parent volunteers are needed for lunch periods. Feri also shared that on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> the straight A lunch will be held for students who met this goal for the first marking period. December 4<sup>th</sup> is picture retake day and December 11<sup>th</sup> is Greek Day for the 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Sally Foster** - Diane Schmid mentioned that the grand total for this year's Sally Foster fundraising event was \$8,587.52. This number exceeded the fundraising goal for the event this year. Ridgeview gets half of this amount. Diane reminded everyone that pick-up is tomorrow, Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> between 3:00 and 8:00 p.m.

**Basketball Tournament:** - Donna Joe reported for Kristin Paolini. On Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> RMS will hold its first 3 v 3 Basketball Tournament. This event's main goal is for its participants and supporters to have fun, display sportsmanship, develop school tradition and raise awareness for a cause. The cause/charity is to yet be determined at this time. Donna mentioned that this event will take place in the main gym from 3-6 pm and involve the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades as well as a RMS staff. The committee hopes to have 8-10 co-ed teams of 3 from all grade levels participate. The deadline for the team entry will be January 25, 2010 and Mr. Gibson will be responsible for collecting all consent forms to participate. The fee to play or watch the event will be \$6.00. Tickets will be sold at scheduled lunch times/days from February 1-26<sup>th</sup>. Each grade will represent themselves by wearing a shirt of their grade's color that night.

**Business Promotions** –Karen Chen reported that \$200 was submitted to Box Tops and 300 bags were submitted to Harris Teeter on behalf of Ridgeview for their contest. Ms. Myers's first period class came in first place with 301 box tops and will receive treats to celebrate their win. Karen reminded everyone to continue to collect used ink cartridges of any brand or size. There is a specially marked box in the front office for cartridges. Karen mentioned how these credits have bought supplies for teachers in the past.

**Reflections** - Tara Murayama reported on the Reflections Program. The deadline for submission is December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Spirit Wear** - Rebecca Hallam and Barbara Textoris reported on spirit wear. Becca and Barbara offered a preview of the samples that have come in. The order forms will go out shortly with a link provided on the Ridgeview website. The deadline for this first submission is November 20<sup>th</sup>, but this may be extended..

**Spelling Bee** – Donna Joe reported for Janine Rauscher. The Spelling Bee now has 9 participants. Donna mentioned that the kids were excited about the reference books, *How to Spell Like a Champ*, that the PTSA was able to provide for them. The Spelling Bee is still looking for small prizes to use for the school bee for the top spellers. If anyone has ideas or contacts, please email Janine Rauscher at [wtpooh123@comcast.net](mailto:wtpooh123@comcast.net).

**Math Olympiad** – Donna Joe reported for Ken Karapetyan. Currently there are 7 students in the club. The first Olympiad was held today. In addition, Mrs. Gibson signed the students up for the AMC8 (another math contest) and the Math Olympiad members will be studying for this as well.

**Father's Group** - Eric Minkoff mentioned that a father's breakfast will be held on December 5<sup>th</sup> from 9 – 10:30 in the lunchroom. Sons and daughters are welcome to attend with their fathers. The goal of the breakfast is to have a focus discussion for the fathers as well as some time to relax together with their students. In addition Eric mentioned that the target audience for the father's group is those students who are struggling academically or are at risk, but all fathers (and mothers) are welcome to the events.

**Restaurant Nights** – Wendy Shokrai mentioned that Potomac Pizza restaurant night will be on Wed, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>. 20% of all sales will go to Ridgeview and no flyer will be required at this time. In addition, Wendy reported there will not be a restaurant night for December. In January, restaurant night will take place at Mama Lucia on Wed. January 13th from 5-9pm. 8% all sales will go to Ridgeview and no flyer will be required. February's restaurant night will take place at Fuddrucker's on Thurs Feb. 11th from 5-8pm. Fuddrucker's is offering 10% of RMS sales and a flyer will be required.

**VII. New Business** – No new business was reported at this time.

**VIII. Adjournment and Next Meeting** There being no further business to be brought before the PTSA, Holly adjourned the PTSA meeting at 8:34 pm. The next PTSA meeting will be held on January 12, 2010 at 7 pm in the RMS Media Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Lisa Torvik, RMS PTSA Secretary

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Date