

Richard Montgomery High School
Parent Teacher Student Association
Meeting Minutes – Tuesday 20 October 2009

Discussion:

- I. Meeting was called to order by Liz Wheeler at 7:38 p.m. in the cafeteria. Liz welcomed all in attendance made additional opening remarks.
- II. The agenda for tonight's meeting was approved as amended
- III. Minutes from the 15 September 2009 meeting were approved.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - a. **A motion was made, seconded and approved to purchase a third cart for the Science Department contingent on the availability of funds from the Safeway/Giant receipts.**
- V. **Principal's Report:**
 - a. Explained what happened when the sprinkler system malfunctioned near the locker rooms.
 - b. Open House was Monday 12 October 2009, Columbus Day. Approximately 130 parents attended throughout the day.
 - c. Next Principal's Coffee is Monday evening, 26 October 2009 at 6 p.m.
 - d. First marking period ends Friday, 30 October 2009. Report cards will be distributed on Wednesday 11 November 2009.
 - e. Reminded us not to drop-off students in the bus area, for safety reasons.
 - f. Chamy Wijeratne is the Student Service Learning coordinator at RMHS. His office is located in room 163, his phone is 301-610-8041, his e-mail address is [Chamara U Wijeratne@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Chamara_U_Wijeratne@mcpsmd.org). Documentation for all service performed during the first semester is due by Friday 8 January 2010, before the semester ends.
 - g. RMHS has a staff spirit committee. The purpose of the committee is to coordinate with the SGA to enhance the school culture, promote positive teaching and learning environment, and provide opportunities for students and staff to engage in spirit-related activities throughout the year.
 - h. RMHS donated \$1,000 to the "Raise the Rocket" campaign.
 - i. The Educational Facilities Officer (E.F.O.), Wendy Strashensky started Monday 19 October 2009. The E.F.O.'s primary function is to maintain and enhance a safe and secure learning environment for students and staff in MCP schools. The E.F.O. program is an outreach program sponsored by the police department in partnership with MCPS. Officer Strashensky will be here five days a week.
 - j. RMHS's Jazz Band has been invited to play at the U. S. Department of Education's 2009 Awards Ceremony for Blue Ribbon Schools in November.
 - k. RHMS's Homecoming Game is Friday 6 November 2009, against Blair High School. Homecoming Dance is Saturday 7 November, in RMHS's gym, (first time in 15 years it's being held here).
 - l. Dr. McLeod introduced the new vice principal, who is serving as the 9th grade administrator, Ms. Afie Mirshah-Nayar. She discussed what the "Every-15-Minutes" program is.
- VI. **President's Report:**
 - a. Thanked the following people:
 - i. Jane Magnum for the "Back-to-School-Night" program

- ii. Tom Jordan – for preparing the student directory and having printed and ready for sale by “Back-to-School-Night”. The school’s phone number on the cover needs to be corrected to 301-610-8000. We have directories available for sale.
- iii. Gail Rothberg, Chris Kelly, Anne Cary, Ginger Martin, Paul Scott for Open House on Monday 12 October 2009
- iv. Sue Alterman – for setting up the practice SAT/ACT exams with Revolution Prep on Saturday 17 October 2009
- b. Attended the MCCPTA’s forum on artificial turf on 7 October 2009
 - i. MCCPTA has no stance
 - ii. The turf is so expensive that it has to be a public-private partnership
 - iii. RMHS is the first school to have it installed
 - iv. All sorts of views were expressed
 - v. They’re looking to the booster clubs for maintenance
- c. There is concern about RMHS students littering the surrounding neighborhood with trash
- d. The listserv is owned and run by the RMHS PTSA, not the school or an individual
- e. Vendor fair for post prom is coming up on 6 December 2009

VII. Officer Reports:

- a. 1st V.P. – Gail Rothberg
 - i. Bricks purchased (4-5 years ago) for the new school
 - 1. We’re still waiting for the official approval in writing from MCPS
 - 2. More bricks will be for sale at a future date
 - 3. The writing on the bricks configuration changed from 3 lines to 4, and from 20 characters per line to 18.
 - 4. Proposed installation location is out front adjacent to the Media Center
 - 5. Explained that the school system is protective of new building...
 - 6. It’s hoped that we can install new bricks once a year
- b. 2nd V.P. of Programs – Christopher Kelly
 - i. The program this evening at 6:30 p.m. was “7 Keys to College Readiness”.
 - ii. There were 9 parents here for the Spanish language version this evening of the program
- c. 3rd V.P. for Outreach – Paul Scott
 - i. Stated that his goal for the PTSA is to be a representative of all groups within the school
 - ii. He’s reaching out to teachers of color, the Athletic Boosters Club, etc.
 - iii. The NAACP rep for Eastern Middle School, will also be our rep.
 - iv. Peter Vos asked if providing childcare would help with parent involvement. That’s what is done at Parklawn Middle School.
- d. 4th V.P. Staff Liaison – Virginia Azuree
 - i. There are significant traffic problems associated with student drop-off , when students are dropped-off where they are not supposed to be.
- e. Corresponding Secretary – Anne Cary
 - i. Anne will post the approved amended minutes as soon as she gets them from Melissa on the school’s website’s PTSA page.

VIII. MCCPTA Delegates Report

- a. Liz and Paul attended the 7 October 7 p.m. @ the Carver Center meeting – forum on artificial turf
- b. There are 4 resolutions that require our vote and that Chris recommended that we support:
 - i. FY 2011 Budget Priorities, moved, 2nd, approved
 - ii. FY 2011 Operating Budget Compact, moved, 2nd, approved

- iii. FY 2011-16 Capital Improvements Programs, moved, 2nd, approved
 - iv. Restroom Renovation over the next 5 years to 108 schools in the county, moved, 2nd, approved
 - c. Math Survey on the Listserv is important
- IX. SGA Report** – no one here from this group, they did let Liz know that they are looking for more parent volunteers for the Homecoming Dance
- X. Committee Chair/Liaison Reports**
 - a. Membership** chaired by Lisa Newman
 - i. 425 parent members
 - ii. 122 Student members
 - iii. 30 Staff members
 - iv. 4 Alumni members
 - v. overall were down 60 members from last year
 - b. Directory** done by Tom Jordan
 - i. Will be much easier to do next year
 - ii. Discussed the possibility of having it on line next year
 - c. **Newsletter** - Ryan Fleming
 - d. Practice SAT/ACT** – Sue Alterman
 - i. Last Saturday, 17 October 2009
 - ii. Smaller turn-out than last year
 - iii. Revolution Prep will give individual reports on line
 - iv. Will look into doing it again in the spring, and will research other companies
 - e. **Every 15 Minutes** – report given by Vice Principal Ms. Afie Mirshah-Nayar
 - f. Athletic Booster Club** – Christopher Kelly
 - i. RM Athletic Booster Club supports school programs
 - ii. Spirit Wear is here!
 - iii. Encouraged all to join
 - iv. “Raise the Rocket” Friday 6 November
 - g. MYP Report** – report given by Lisa Newman for Maida Babcock
 - i. 300 kids in the program
 - ii. There’s an IB interest meeting on 18 November 2009 @ 6:30 p.m. with Mr. Owono
 - iii. There’s room in the French Exchange Program
- XI. New Business**
 - a. MCCPTA Math Survey – Chris Kelly
 - i. Deadline for completing the survey is soon, really want the feedback
 - b. MD PTA Bylaw Amendments
 - i. Liz review each of the 18 Bylaw Amendments
 - ii. We moved, 2nd and approved all 18
 - c. MD PTA Legislative Platform (blue sheet)
 - i. We moved, 2nd and approved
 - d. Task Force for Listserv etiquette and standing rules
 - i. We moved, 2nd and approved forming a task force.
 - ii. Anne Cary and Michael Samuels will be on it.
- XII. Motion to adjourn @ 9:18 p.m. was passed unanimously.**