

Richard Montgomery High School PTSA Meeting
October 18, 2011

Call to order

Vince Mickens called to order the meeting of the **Richard Montgomery High School (RMHS) PTSA** at **7:00 PM on Tuesday, October 18, 2011** in the Richard Montgomery Caf .

Roll call

The following persons were present:

Kavita Dawson	Ginger Martin	Phil Page	Raj Kulkarni
Tracy DiGioia	Dr. McLeod	Lynn Perry Parker	Andrew Yarrow
Dira Djaya	Liz McNamara	Paula Strange	Richard Yarrow
Jeanine Gould-Kostka	Vincent Mickens		Joan Zenzen
Tom Jordon	Tina Morgan		

Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes from the September 20, 2011 were approved as is. Tom Jordon motioned for approval, Kavita seconded the motion. All approved.

Announcements

- Vince welcomed the group to the second PTSA meeting of the 2011-2012 school year
- A PTSA Meet and Greet will be held on Thursday, October 20 at the Austin Grill

Agenda Topics

1. Topic: Principals Report

Presenter: Dr. McLeod

Discussion: Discussion: Dr. McLeod discussed several issues documented in his Principal Report for the meeting dated 10/18/2011. Some highlights include

- The 2012 graduate date has been set to Friday, June 8, 2012. Four senior parent meetings have been scheduled.
- Over 850 students participated in the SGA Homecoming Dance. Dr. McLeod wanted to especially thank all the parent volunteers.
- Over 125 families attended the Open House on Monday, October 10.
- Dr. McLeod led the discussion on the state requirement to attain 100% proficiency for English and Algebra HSAs. Richard Montgomery missed the 86.3 target for English proficiency (Reading) by one student. Communications to parents and students to take the exam will be emphasized in the coming year.
- The Black Maskers will be performing A Christmas Carol: Scrooge and Marley on December 3rd, 4th and 9th and 10th. This performance will also include 8 singers from Julius West Middle School.

Joan Zenzen mentioned that there was a major conflict on the December 9th performance due to a Senior IB field trip that could change the performance dates.

- Dr. McLeod presented and distributed a summary of the history, components, feedback and recommendations on the Every 15 Minutes Program. The recommendations center around delivering the same strong message with less strain on administrative and budget resources, making it less “gloom and doom” and increasing awareness of the dangers of distracted driving as well as drinking and driving. Dr McLeod requested PTSA feedback on the proposed changes over the next few months

Action Items:

#	Action	Person Responsible	Needed By
1.1	Check with Ms. Davis on the 12/9 performance	Vince Mickens	
1.2	Post Every 15 minutes on PTSA Listserv	Victoria Van Dyke	

2. Topic: SGA Update

Presenter: Dira Djaya

Discussion:

- Homecoming week was a great success. From spirit week to the decorations and last but not least, Richard Montgomery won the football game!
- The formal dress drive is in progress. Gently used formal dresses will be collected and donated to the RMHS sister school in Tuscaloosa, OK.
- The canned food drive will take place October 24 – 29th. Homerooms will compete against each other for a prize and bragging rights.
- Halloween Candy will be collected the week following Halloween to donate to the troops.
- There will be a student-staff softball game on December 2nd.

Action Items: None

3. Topic: Budget Discussions

Presenter: Kavita Dawson

Discussion:

- The Post Prom 2012 budget was distributed. Jeannine **motioned to approve** the budget, Tom Jordon **seconded the motion** and **all approved**.
- The October Treasurer’s report was distributed. Year-to-date, over \$7000 has come in from memberships and donations. The insurance payment was made in October.
- The PayPal account has been established. 2.5% will be deducted from each payment/donation but we can have an unlimited number of links to the different RM programs. Currently a link exists for PTSA membership and Post Prom donations. The brick donation program might be a good program to add. Unfortunately there is no way to identify which link was used so the payee/donor will need to be contacted to identify which program they are making the payment/donation for and specifics on how they wish to donate bricks.
- Lynn expressed concern about the status of the MCCPTA payment.

Action Items:

#	Action	Person Responsible	Needed By
3.1	Work with Gail to possibly add brick donation program to PayPal	Kavita and Ginger	

3.2	Submit MCCPTA payment	Kavita	ASAP
------------	-----------------------	--------	------

4. Topic: MCCPTA and Committee Reports

Presenter: Committee Chairs

Discussion:

- MCCPTA – Phil and Lynn provided an excellent summary of five MCCPTA proposed resolutions with the following summary comments
 - FY 2013 Operating Budget – The resolution has been narrowed but is still very broad. One key point is that it still supports the principal of Maintenance of Effort which states that if the state allocated monies to schools, the county cannot cut that amount.
 - FY 2013 Capital Improvement Program Budget – We should support this resolution but like the operating budget it is very broad.
 - Proposed Resolution of the Co-Location of County Services – This proposal addresses the plan to combine an elementary school with the Children’s Resource Center on Edmonton Road. Issues surrounding this are school security and public access to the building.
 - Resolution in Support of Creating a Teenage Curfew (abbreviated) – Intend to be against this resolution.
 - Resolution on MCPS Procedures for Site Selection Process – Recommend that PTA members be selected to help pick a new site.
- Membership and Directory – Paula announced that there are 403 PTSA members including 296 parents or guardians. Jeannine suggested that another announcement be placed on the listserv with the pay pal link on the form as this is the only fund raiser for the PTSA. Tom Jordon explained how follow-up on mailing directories occurred in the past. Twenty directories need to be mailed but Vince informed Tom that Kavita has offered to handle the mailing of the directories with Anita’s help.
- Grocery receipts – Ginger provided the group with statistics on grocery store receipts. There are currently 109 Bloom members and 3000 points. Ginger noted that spending Bloom points can be tricky as the options are limited. There are 212 Safeway families but 150 have not re-subscribed leaving only 62 active families. Harris Teeter and Giant have 27 and 51 families respectively. Ginger will work with Janet Riley to come up with different ways to get families to renew and sign up.
- Programs - Jeannie was very pleased to announce the resounding success of the first 2011-2012 program with Family Connection. Twenty –two families participated in the English program and the room was full (approx. 40 families) in the Spanish session. Jeannine advised that if anyone is interested but could not attend either session to email Mary Hull and ask for a password to the system.
- Brick Donation – 2 more bricks were donated. Ginger will get the final number needed to break even on installation.
- GT Liaison – Richard Yarrow (student) was nominated and approved to be the Gifted and Talented Liaison

Action Items:

#	Action	Person Responsible	Needed By
4.1	Encourage additional subscription to grocery store receipts	Ginger Martin	
4.2	Obtain cost to install already donated bricks and how many additional bricks we need donated	Ginger Martin	

	before we break even.		
4.3	Repost the PTSA membership info on the PTSA listserv	Victoria Van Dyke	
4.4	Solicit memberships in the next RM Blast	Vince and Dr. McLeod	

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, November, 15, 2011 7:00 PM