**Ritchie Park Elementary PTA**

**Meeting Minutes – February 7, 2011**

Attendees: See sign in sheet attached……

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM

December 6, 2011 PTA meeting minutes approved with 2 changes.

**treasurer’s report:**

Steve had nothing new to report at this time. Budget is with Randi and should be posted on line soon.

**principal’s REPORT:**

Ms. Long addressed the recent RM teacher arrest. She suggests having discussions at home with the issues relating to this arrest, as the school cannot comment to the children on these issues and will therefore not be dealing with this at school.

Ms. Long also mentioned that the same protocol will be followed at the Valentine’s Day party as the Halloween party. No siblings are allowed at these parties, space is the primary issue as well as liability for small pieces from games etc.

Ms. Long additionally let us know that the school system has officially put a stop to the fifth grade during school pool party. Liability is an issue. She mentioned that the PTA can sponsor an event in lieu of this after school hours, other ideas were to change the pool party to the last day of school since it’s a half day. Fifth grade promotion is meeting this Friday and will discuss the different possibilities.

On a lighter note Ms. Long said to lessen the blow to the fifth graders she could see if she could allow the annual donations from Bar-T (moon bounce, snow cone machine, etc) could be passed along to the fifth grade promotion

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:**

Marquette was not here. Membership is still the same

**ADVOCACY REPORT:**

Rich and Jennifer spoke about the overcrowding issue we’ve had for the past couple years resulting on the agreed to ES #5. A recommendation was made to delay the construction for another 2 years. This Thursday evening (2/9) Our own Cheryl Moss Herman will provide testimony to the County Council to get this recommendation overturned. The time slot of when our testimony takes place will not be known until late Thursday afternoon. Attendance by as many as possible is greatly encouraged.

On 2/15, 7:30 PM at RM there will be an operating budget forum that may be interesting to some to attend.

**PROGRAMS AND EVENTS:**

There is an assembly coming up called History Alive that should be a nice even t for the kids. Recently on 1/30 there was an assembly – How old is a hero.

2/24 a flyer will be distributed about Music and Dance night event. The 5th grade promotion will be selling snacks; there will be a D.J and a food drive.

Community service night is coming up in March, the recipients this year will be a woman’s’ shelter on Wilkens Avenue in Rockville. There will also be crafts made by the kids for the Children’s Inn at NIH.

A chair person is needed for the book swap in June.

Bylaw committee volunteers are needed to look over the bylaws.

Also, nominating committee volunteers are needed.

A volunteer to help with distribution and sales of the yearbook is needed.

**ANNOUCEMENTS:**

Thank you to Tonya Greenspan for chairing the Variety Show!

Cluster concert is 2/8

County Council Hearing on CIP budget is 2/9

Valentine day parties are 2/14

MCCPTA operating budget forum is 2/15

Box top collection in February!

Music and dance night and Manna Mania is 2/24

March PTA meeting is March 6