

**Minutes**  
**January 11, 2012**  
**PTO Board Meeting**

Board Members in Attendance:

Holly Shilstone-President  
Liz Palmer-VP Finance  
Kef Wilson-VP Public Relations  
Frances Davidson-Past-President  
Ann Guerra-School Life Director  
Madhuri Chilakapati-Volunteer Coordinator  
Amie Canfield – Volunteer Coordinator  
Teri Gerber – Teacher Appreciation Director  
Janann Pittman – Specialist Representative  
Mary Chang-5<sup>th</sup> grade Representative  
Stefanie Moll – 4<sup>th</sup> grade Representative  
Christine Tabrizi – 4<sup>th</sup> grade Representative  
Nicole Andrews-2<sup>nd</sup> grade Representative  
Stephanie Slobin-1<sup>st</sup> grade Representative  
Sandy Shaw-Kinder Representative  
Aminata Ojore-Faculty Representative  
Dr. Keri Fovargue-Head of School-Ex-Officio Member

PTO Members in Attendance:

Maryann Mueller – Book Fair Co-Chair

1. Meeting called to order by Holly Shilstone, President, at 6:03 pm.-No quorum, so vote on December meeting minutes will be delayed until next meeting, February 8.
  
2. Carnival Update – Max Shilstone – Carnival plans are underway. Compass Bank has agreed to be a \$5,000 underwriter, and is eager to be involved with ROE more generally. Other underwriting opportunities are available, and are being coordinated by Margaret Young. New events at the Carnival this year will include a “money grab” which will be manned by Compass Bank volunteers. Whole Foods (Waugh location) has agreed, through a parent connection, to donate some cold, healthy food. Rice Epicurean will once again provide hot dogs and hamburgers, and pizza will also be served. The Carnival team is working with Dr. Fovargue. Chair is checking to see if a rain date is needed and checking with other schools to see if they do this or not.

As a side note, Compass Bank is still working to provide ROE families access to their parking lot. This issue is currently being reviewed by the district’s legal department.

Janann Pittman asked whether Compass Bank offers children's savings accounts. If they do, a Carnival booth might be a great opportunity for the bank to highlight this feature, as many ROE parents may be interested.

3. Book Fair Update – Maryann Mueller – Maryann is working with Sandra Ahlhorn to chair the on-campus Scholastic Book fair for her third (and final) year. This year, Grandparents / Special Friends day will be held on Saturday, February 11 from 10am – 3pm. They are working on ways to shorten the walk for grandparents. The theme for the bookfair this year is “Luau.” Hours will be Monday and Tuesday (February 13, 14) from 7:30 am to 3:30, and Wednesday (February 15) from 7:30 to 2:30. Family night will be Wednesday from 5:30 – 7:30. Because of food permit issues, it is likely that no food will be served, though they will look into the possibility of arranging for food trucks.

Between now and the book fair, teachers will not be sending home Scholastic order forms. The book fair team is working with Ms. Eastman to ensure that the library's wants and needs can be addressed through the book fair. During book fair week, children on free and reduced lunch will be allowed to purchase a book at no cost to them. Spreadsheet was passed around the Board meeting for volunteer sign-up. Volunteers are being recruited by the Book Fair chairs. Volunteer Coordinators – Amie Canfield and Madhuri Chilakapati encouraged sign-up being posted on the PTO bulletin boards by the cafeteria as a great way for sign up in our volunteer needs. Many parents are up here for lunch or drop off and are checking the bulletin boards, which is a great way to recruit volunteers.

4. Principal Update – Dr. Fovargue notified the board of a recent incident at Sand Lake involving injury to a child. Sand Lake is currently closed to ROE students, and Dr. Fovargue is working with HISD and SPARK Parks to determine the future of Sand Lake. They want to be mindful of the history and support of Sand Lake, while ensuring the safety of all children.
5. President's Update – Holly Shilstone and the VPs are working to make sure that ROE has a presence at the District VII meetings. Other schools in District VII have been successful at obtaining funds for their schools, and we will work to ensure that we do not miss out on any opportunities here. Leo Bobadilla, Chief Operating Officer and his team presented the bond coverage at the December District meeting. Leo will be visiting ROE in the coming months with Dr. Fovargue and Mr. Spencer re: ROE and its facilities. All grounds and facility management aspects of ROE are to be directed to Dr. Fovargue. Ann Best, HISD Chief Human Resource Operator, presented at the January meeting regarding the teacher evaluation process and STAAR, as well as the quality of substitute teachers were noted by those in attendance.

Holly is also representing ROE on its HISD Parent Advisory Committee for Dr. Terry Grier.

An ROE Dads' Club is launching in February. Look in the ROE News for the date and location.

Thanks to the Teacher Appreciation Chairs for their work. Teacher Appreciation Week will be February 21 – 25, and may have an Oscar theme this year. The Chairs will be coordinating with the Grade Representatives to ensure consistency across grades and classes.

6. Other Business - Mary Chang gave a brief update on 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation plans, indicating that they are looking to gift some IB mats for doorways, as well as continue the art mural project adjacent to the Nature Center. Dr. Fovargue indicated that new IB signs outside as well as in the cafeteria will help prepare ROE for the IB site visit. Additionally, HISD is bidding on a light for the outdoor flagpole.

Stephanie Slobin suggested as a potential auction item having a volunteer photographer take photos of each child and allow parents to bid on them.

7. The meeting adjourned at 6:58pm – Teri Gerber moved, Kef Wilson seconded.