

**ROE PTO BOARD MEETING**  
**Minutes for November 10, 2010**  
**Meeting was brought to order at 6:07**

**Charla Carroll**  
**Les Baylis - HISD Food Services**  
**Marc Sanders**  
**Francis Moore Jones**  
**Amie Canfield**  
**Liz Palmer**  
**Shenequa Animashaun**  
**Maria Onofrow**  
**Michele Dahlquist**  
**Holly Shilstone**

**Leslie Gisi**  
**Becky Smith**  
**Susan Shenker**  
**Diane Cimino**  
**Tina Salem**  
**Anadeli Bencomo**  
**Debra Kenna**  
**Ann Guerra**  
**Janann Pittman**

**TOPIC: Secretary's Report**

**SPONSOR: Charla Carroll**

The October minutes were presented for approval. Frances seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**TOPIC: President's Report**

**SPONSOR: Frances Moore-Jones**

Frances discussed the meeting with the Grade Reps and Meredith Maierson regarding Community Building.

Several great ideas came out of the meeting

- Bringing grades for a work day in the nature center
- Having Mr. Rainn do some experiments outside
- Grade Reps working with Bookfair Committee to encourage more Grandparent & Family Night participation during bookfair
- Reiterating the goal of having 4 Social Events per grade per year
- The possibility of a campout on school grounds. Other schools have done this: Roberts, West University

**Reminder for upcoming events:**

- Fall Frenzy is Friday
- November 17<sup>th</sup> is Water Day for 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade. Mr. Wood will be here. He digs water wells in developing countries.

**TOPIC: Directory**

**SPONSOR: Maria Onofrow**

Our Directory was published and distributed. It made a profit of \$3700. We have a few extras and are looking for helpers for next year. The goal for next year is to re-do the campus map.

**Q:** Have you asked for volunteers at the end of the year?

**A:** Holly Shilstone has requested that a committee be formed by a team including Paul Mueller and Maria Onofrow to collect feedback regarding the directory and other website needs as we plan for next year. We will also ask room parents to gather info at the end of the year and help collect directory information.

### **TOPIC: Principals Report**

#### **SPONSOR: Susan Shenker**

- “SMART” boards for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades are on the way. Grades 1-5 are now “SMART”!
- Jennifer McCormick’s family donated money to purchase Skype equipment and we did a test run with Ms. McLaughlin’s class.
- Magnet tours are underway and the turnout is healthy.
- An advisory committee is being formed for G/T so we’ll start some discussions on that.
- We’re doing some “teacher observation” for professional development where teachers criss-cross grade levels and subjects to get exposure to other teaching techniques and styles.

#### **Parking:**

- Ella Lee residents have applied for neighborhood permit parking only within the 2900 block which is the first 6 houses off Kirby, not the entire block. ROE is a part of the community and was represented at the City meeting with neighbors, constables and engineers. The City stated that the neighborhood permitting had to be both sides or none at all due to the rules for neighborhood permit parking. The petition submitted to the City by the Ella Lee residents was only for the south side. Max Shilstone attended this meeting on behalf of ROE. The City traffic engineers and team will continue to review and make a recommendation for Ella Lee. The City is looking into one side only no parking like other streets in the area as this is a mobility and safety issue for all parties.
- Carpool was done today at 7:47!
- Pick up still has a few issues especially on Wednesday’s and Friday’s. We have contracted a study to look at 2 ‘pick ups’ and 2 ‘drop offs’ and give recommendations.

**Q:** Regarding gates not being secured properly and after school employees coming and going from unsecured gates.

**A:** The lock has been rekeyed and there is a protocol in place for the After School Employees to call for someone to open the gate.

### **TOPIC: Spanish Curriculum**

#### **SPONSOR: Susan Shenker**

Regarding the follow-up with other schools using computer-driven language programs: We checked with Kolter Elementary. Their program is not web-based so kids cannot access it at home.

Wharton uses Rosetta Stone and 2 other companies that provide books and other materials.

Q: What does Sra. Vasquez think?

A: She is very open to the additional resources.

Sandra Ahlhorn: refresh me on the costs?

A: The PTO's initial portion would be \$36,150

Discussion began about fund raising events falling short, yet Frances commented that Development funds have made up for the shortfall. Discussion began about fund raising events falling short, yet Frances commented that Development funds have made up for the shortfall. Frances also mentioned that Ann Guerra will be forming a committee to discuss the Sally Foster fundraising as the recommendation is being made to make a change for next year due to the reduced funding made this year from what was budgeted to actual. Holly Shilstone as VP/PE, Sandra Alhorn and Liz Palmer as our Financial Officers requested that this new fundraising venture be brought forward to the Board no later than February for budget allocation purposes. All were in agreement of this timing.

It was suggested that Sandra Ahlhorn present the treasurer's Report before voting on the Spanish curriculum.

### **TOPIC: Treasurers Update**

#### **SPONSOR: Sandra Ahlhorn**

Sandra attended the HISD budget meeting and found out that Texas will have a shortfall of \$11-\$25 billion depending on property values. Melinda Garrett, HISD 's Budget person, says the state is trying to avoid impacting schools but no one will really know until the special session of August 2012. She's guessing there will be \$50-\$80 million in cutbacks. Everything is on the table.

**Susan Shenker:** In the scheme of things, we are not an extensively funded school for HISD.

Ann Guerra motioned that we could fund the Rosetta Stone based Spanish program from the excess reserve funds.

A point of order came up as to whether or not there we needed a specific number of Board Members in attendance to make a quorum. In review of the By-laws, we were within bylaws for this motion.

Diane Cimino seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Shenker will be ordering the laptop cart and Rosetta Stone license to implement as soon as possible.

**TOPIC: HISD Food Service Report**

**SPONSOR: Les Baylis**

Mr. Baylis reviewed the Milk Study in great detail and packets regarding this study were distributed. No more flavored milk until December -- another 6 weeks. It was helping meet weekly calorie and other requirements. There was no negative impact on ROE, but HISD wasn't compliant with the Texas Department of Agriculture.

Rachel Dabney, HISD's nutritionist is working to get more healthy things on the menu within the guidelines that she's given. Right now 65% of the items served are produced at the HISD facility. They currently prepare 685K units a day.

Q: Is water always offered?

A: Yes.

At River Oaks 135 children opted out of the breakfast program, but breakfast eating at ROE is UP! Before the mobile cart program, they were serving 60 units. They are now serving 178.

Q: Do you get funded for the food whether they opt out or not?

A: We get funded only for the units we serve.

Ann Guerra motioned we close the meeting.

Debra Kenna seconded. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:49.