

PTO Board Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2014
ROE Library
6:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of River Oaks Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization (“PTO”) met on Wednesday, the 12th day of March, 2014, at 6:00 p.m., in the Library of River Oaks Elementary School. The following officers and members of the Board of Directors were present, thus constituting a quorum:

Liz Palmer – President
Kara Richardson – First Vice President
Madhuri Chilakapati – VP Internal Relations
Bob Casey – VP Development
Charles Koerth – VP Finance/Treasurer
Paul Heyburn – Past President
Chiarra Stratton – Secretary
Lisa Pollock – Budget & Finance
Kathryn Hensey – Volunteer Coordinators
Travis Crabtree – Ways & Means
Margaret Young – Teacher and Staff Appreciation
Jacqualin Seely – Kindergarten Representative
Allison Rudin & Regina Ibarra – 1st Grade Representatives
Laurel Agris & Chauncey Broberg – 2nd Grade Representatives
Katheryn Hung – 3rd Grade Representative
Michelle Taylor – 5th Grade Representative
Keri Fovargue – Head of School

Various members of the PTO including parents/guardians of ROE students, ROE faculty and ROE staff (collectively, “PTO Members”), as well as community members, were also present for the meeting.

Call to Order

Liz Palmer, President of the Board, called the meeting to order.

Young Inventors Showcase

Dr. Fovargue discussed the Young Inventors Showcase and introduced Mr. Rainn to further discuss an opportunity regarding this event. Mr. Rainn discussed this year’s event, in which ROE had 102 entries. This is the fifth year ROE is involved in the program, which has taken the place of the science fair at ROE. Mr. Rainn introduced Mr. Greg Micek, founder of Young

Inventors Showcase. Mr. Micek explained how Young Inventors Showcase gives students the opportunity to take their inventions to market and get patents. Mr. Micek is proposing a Pilot Program for ROE to launch production of and obtain patents for some of these inventions. The money raised from these products would be divided between the school and the inventors' families. Mr. Rainn would like to get a committee of five (5) individuals together to meet with Mr. Micek to get the ball rolling. Dr. Fovargue suggested that Mr. Rainn draft a request that will be sent out in the ROE News seeking parents to join the committee to meet with Mr. Micek.

Minute Approval

Chiara Stratton presented the minutes from the February meeting for approval. Kara Richardson moved to approve the minutes and Bob Casey seconded the motion. Motion to approve February Board Meeting minutes passed unanimously.

Book Fair Recap

Molly Ward and Georgi Silverman presented the Book Fair Recap. The Book Fair was highly successful this year. The income from this year's book fair was over three times that of prior years, with a total of approximately \$11K raised. Molly and Georgi thanked the many volunteers for helping make the Book Fair a success, especially the high volume of kindergarten parents who volunteered.

Among the improvements/ideas for next year, Georgi and Molly listed the following: find a way to increase the use of gift certificates, increase number of volunteers, send out targeted grade letters with regard to teacher wishlists and available books, expand payment options, create a school cookbook and/or maybe bring in a local author/artist.

Georgi Silverman and Susanna Watt will chair the book fair committee next year.

Carnival Update

Carnival is scheduled for Saturday, April 5th. Frost Bank and John Daugherty Realtors are sponsoring the event. Carnival Committee would like to have a ticket underwriter by Monday, March 24th. Other underwriting opportunities for the inflatables are also available and can be accepted after the 24th.

Carnival Committee has decided to assign booths per class and will request volunteers from the class parents accordingly. Tickets and t-shirts will be available for pre-purchase online. There will be a New Family Booth at the Carnival to welcome newly accepted families.

Next PTO Board and General Meetings

There will be a Board Meeting on April 9th at 6pm and a PTO General Meeting at 6:30pm. The PTO Slate for 2014-2015 will be presented for approval at the Board Meeting. At the General Meeting, the new Board will be announced, there will be a brief PTO financial update, and Guest Speakers Diana Bidulscu and Shelbi Blackmon, from HISD, will speak about digital citizenship and practical solutions to monitor kids on electronic devices.

Spring Social Update

Liz Daniel and Nichole Pruitt are exploring venues for the weekend of May 2/May 3. Bob Casey reminded the Board that Frost is slated to be a sponsor for this event. Liz Daniel needs help to make this event happen, if you'd like to assist, please contact her.

Development Update

Bob Casey presented the Development Update. To date, we've raised over \$45,000 through the Annual Fund. School wide participation was 27%. Bob would like to thank all families that participated in the Annual Fund. Mr. Anderson's class had the highest classroom participation and each student in that class will receive 10 carnival tickets.

Financial Update

Charles Koerth presented the Financial Update. Sources of revenue since the last meeting were the Book Fair and the Annual Fund. Expenses to date have included field trips, security and teacher training reimbursements.

Nominating Committee

Kara Richardson presented the Nominating Committee update. The Nominating Committee is working on finalizing the 2014-2015 slate. As soon as the committee approves the slate, it will be sent out to the Board. Board will vote on new slate at the April 9th Board Meeting at 6pm and new members announced at the April 9th General Meeting.

School Update

Dr. Fovargue thanked the Book Fair committee and all the volunteers for all the work they did and especially for getting the teachers/staff and community all involved in the Book Fair. She also thanked all the parents for their support of this event.

Dry Fovargue has reached out to HISD in regard to help with policing the traffic. Traffic around the school is increasing and we need the help. She will provide updates as she receives feedback.

President Update

Liz Palmer introduced the idea of sending out a parent survey for the 2013-2014 school year. Please send feedback/thoughts/ comments regarding whether we should do this to Liz.

Other Business and Adjournment

There being no other business to address, a motion was raised and seconded to adjourn the meeting, which was passed unanimously.