

Richmond PTA General Membership Meeting Minutes 9/25/09
Richmond School South Garden 6:30PM

Board Members in attendance:

Jeanne Kaliszewski, President
Mitsue Ham, Assistant Treasurer
Andrea Obana, Special Events Coordinator
Mary Klinger, Vice-President
Carol Shaw, Secretary
Jeff Hopper, Advocacy and Outreach Coordinator
Karin Schulz, Teacher Representative

Members Absent (Excused):

Jessica Gifford, Treasurer

A quorum of members as stated in the Standing Rules was present

Notice of meeting was given through school newspaper, flyer and on-line through the listserv

Attachments: Budget for 2009/2010 School Year, Standing Rules for 2009-2010, Information from Defend Oregon on tax measure (flyers)

Discussion Items:

1. Introduction of Board Members and Welcome
 - a) Jenny Bravin has stepped down due to health reasons, Mary Klinger remains as Vice President.
2. Defend Oregon Presentation (see flyers attached).
 - a) Special election will be held on January 26th. If current tax measure is not upheld, billions of dollars will be cut out of the state budget. 52% of the budget funds public education.
3. Standing Rules
 - a) Standing Rules (See Attachment) presented by Jeanne Kaliszewski, President
ACTION: All members voted to approve
4. Proposed Richmond PTA Budget for 2009-2010 school year
 - a) Proposed budget (See Attachment) presented by Mitsue Ham, Assistant Treasurer
ACTION: All members voted to approve
5. Bev Pruitt, principal and Karin Schulz, teacher representative present new drop off protocol due to increase in enrollment (571 students).

- Karin Schulz will chair new safety committee which will meet first Tuesday of every month at 7:30AM in the library. This committee will need parent participation. Please put a note in Karin's box if you have suggestions.

6. Volunteer Opportunities

- a) PTA Nominating committee will be formed to gather information about helping to select new PTA board for next year as current President and Secretary will be completing their terms this school year.
- b) Grant Committee-Katie Luers will chair. First Meeting will be on October 13th from 6-8PM.
- c) Classroom Representative Training on Monday morning at 8:15 in the library
- d) Art volunteer coordinator needed. Would act as liason between art teacher and volunteers.

7. Announcements by Jeff Hopper, PTA Outreach and Advocacy Coordinator

Richmond received a generous grant this year to purchase mobile computer labs. This grant, together with promised matching from PPS, totals over \$200K in support for boosting technology at Richmond. Foundation has also pledged support for training and maintaining this lab. However, this will require some coordinated effort!

Bev Purcell has supported the idea of a technology steering committee at Richmond composed of teachers and community members to help further the use of technology in the classroom. If any of you are interested in becoming part of this effort, please give me your name and we can start the discussions to see what is immediately needed.

There are a few immediate changes you will see regarding technology.

- During the next few weeks (planned) PPS will be deploying an online based volunteer management solution called HelpCounter. When you go into the office, rather than the regular paper sign-in sheet, there will be a computer there, to select your name, destination... and it even prints out a badge for you!
- A technology survey will be going home with students for parents to fill out. This anonymous survey will help assess the general levels of access Richmond students have to technology from home. This will also help see how our online based parent\teacher communication is going as well as the email and web based communication which comes to us from the school and through Oya No Kai's list service.
- The grant for the use of the Rosetta Stone software is running out at the end of the month. Based on general interest, we can renew the site license and have continued access. In the last year, 250 hours total were used by

Richmond students and community, which of course breaks down to not much general use.

- Richmond has applied for the WeatherBug Grant to receive a professional grade weather station which the students can use to get their daily weather information. I just applied for this, so we'll see if it comes to pass!
- PPS will be rolling out a new website to Richmond in the next month or two, so be prepared for some big restructuring of the site's look-n-feel.

8. Julie Gefroh, Green Team Committee Co-Chair, Summary of current efforts

- a) Harvest Festival 11-3PM Saturday October 3rd
- b) Work on Safer Routes to Schools
- c) Conserving resources- washing trays in cafeteria
- d) Learning Gardens (Garden Representatives assist children in garden)
- e) Work Party in South Garden 2:30-4:30PM on Friday, October 2nd

9. Review of Membership, Carol Shaw PTA Secretary

- a) 117 paid members as of 9-25-09
- b) Last year we had 155 paid members and our goal this year is 170 paid members.
- c) Remember PTA has strength in numbers at the state and national level in having a voice for children on legislation. We need e-mail addresses in order to provide members with the electronic PTA newsletter which includes news on PTA projects, legislation, and tips to help your child in school.

10. Adjournment/movie