

## **September 9, 2009 Meeting of Riverdale PTA**

Meeting was called to order by Kristie Guardia, President, at 3:33 p.m. in the Riverdale Elementary School library.

### **Introductions:**

Kristie Guardia, President  
Janine Persefield, Vice President  
Todd Jackson, Treasurer  
Mary Beth Eggers, Secretary

Introductions made by parents, administrators and teachers in attendance. Total 14 persons in attendance.

### **Minutes from past meeting**

Motion made by Janine Persefield to approve meeting minutes from May 6, 2009.  
Motion seconded by Todd Jackson.  
Motion carried

### **Treasurers report**

Cash on hand currently: \$3,691.40  
Todd reported that we overspent last year's budget by \$888.  
Todd presented new 2009-1010 budget for consideration. He made a few changes including:  
Line item labeled "Contingency" came out.  
Liability insurance was changed to reflect the past year cost at \$125  
Playground budget line item came out.  
Raised estimates for fundraisers  
Motion made by Dawn Simmons to approve 2009-2010 proposed budget. Seconded by Sara Smeltzly. Motion carried.

### **Administrator Reports:**

#### **Mr. Jacobs-Superintendent**

Not Present-out of town

#### **Mr Boyd-High School**

Not present-out of town

#### **Mrs. Evans-Elementary**

Introduced new teachers to the Elementary school:  
Mrs. Carls-2<sup>nd</sup> grade  
Mrs. Olson-school nurse  
Mrs. Clark-librarian  
Mrs. White- reassigned to library as library aide  
Mrs. Nelson-individual aide

### **Mrs. Evans-Elementary report continued**

Mrs. Evans reported that the playground is up and running and said that the Riverdale playground ribbon cutting is being featured on various Mediacom channels in a Illinois Quad City Chamber of Commerce advertisement.

She reported that Open House was well attended and classes started well, despite a few kinks that needed to be worked out with buses and the new breakfast program. She noted that the breakfast program has been well received with approximately 185 students taking part each day.

Other happenings within the Elementary School:

Fall benchmarking for Ames Web has been taking place

Teachers have done screening building wide with intervention planned for students who need assistance.

Pre-K family night will be 6 p.m., Thursday, September 10.

September 18<sup>th</sup> will be a School Improvement Day with students attending only a half day.

Mark your calendars for November 19<sup>th</sup> for Family Reading Night.

Question was raised about the recent decision by the district to allow only packaged treats at school.

Mrs. Evans explained that many districts are implementing the same rules due to recent Hepatitis issues and potential future health concerns. She said any packaged items from grocery stores and bakeries (any state approved kitchen) are allowed. Homemade items are not allowed. This applies only to treats provided for the children, not teacher and staff events.

### **Mr. Jennings-Middle School**

Mr. Jennings reported that the Middle School (M.S.) is off to a wonderful start. New teachers within their halls include Miss Jennifer Johnson-art teacher and Ben Tague-music teacher.

Mr. Jennings said that M.S. volleyball would have home games every Thursday until October 1<sup>st</sup>. The M.S. also plays host to a conference tournament happening October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Back to School Backpack Night appeared to have 100 percent attendance from incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

### **Mr. Jennings- M.S. report continued**

Student led conferences are scheduled to take place October 21 and 22. Notes went out today, September 9<sup>th</sup> regarding these conferences. This program allows students to take ownership of their performance and share their report cards and progress or lack thereof with their parents with a teacher advisor assisting them in the process. Last year's participation reached 100 percent, 98 percent the year before.

M.S. Book Fair will take place during conferences this year Oct. 21 and 22.

Response to Intervention (R.T.I.) is getting set up at the M.S. for the first time ever. The hope is that fewer M.S. students will require R.T.I. services in the future due to implementation of R.T.I. in the elementary.

Holiday Walk- Mr. Jennings announced that the Holiday Walk should be back this year with some changes made. The plans are to tie it into the M.S. winter concert on December 17<sup>th</sup>. They hope to feature arts and crafts for sale, entertainment and a dinner. They also hope to hold a few Saturday work days (specific dates TBA) to help create items for sale. If anybody can help or has any arts and crafts to share, Mr. Jennings asks them to contact Mrs. Verbeckmoes, the student council advisor.

### **Correspondence**

None

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Fundraising**

Janine Pearsfield presented this year's fundraising program offered by the Market Day Company. The program will feature gifts and edibles. Catalogs will be sent home with children and sales will begin on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. Orders will be due September 25<sup>th</sup>. Incentives will be offered including a free "backpack buddy" to all children who bring in one paid order. Prizes will be offered to the top three sellers throughout all the schools, as well as prizes for take home raffle ticket returns. A display of sample gift items will be set up in the Elementary School next week.

It was proposed that the PTA continue the Fruit Sales program due to its past success for the Playground fund. Past chairpersons, Kelley and Ted Doty were credited with much of this success.

### **Market Day**

Dawn Simmons reported that Market Day order forms are due Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at school with internet orders due on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Ordered items need to be picked up 6:30-7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 22 in the High School cafeteria.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Question was raised about the room parent program. It was suggested that the kindergarten parent leader(s) be those who have already had children go through kindergarten, rather than new parents, to help make it easier for everyone.

This year's elementary coordinator needs to be confirmed, as does participating parents within each classroom. Notes will be sent home to find out which parents would be interested in helping, as well as their appropriate contact information. It was suggested that email information be captured as well as phone number(s).

Questions raised about future PTA meetings. Suggestions were taken on how to involve the majority of our parents, teachers and administrators. It was decided that the meetings will take place the first Wednesday of every month at 3:10 p.m. at the Elementary school. Kristie Guardia said she will contact the advisors of the Starz program in hopes of being able to provide babysitters during the meeting. The officers will look into reserving meeting space as well as additional gym or gathering space for the kids on the elementary calendar. Motion was made by Todd Jackson to hold the next meeting of the PTA on Wednesday, October 7 at 3:10 p.m. Motion seconded by Mary Beth Eggers.

Meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.