

ROTH PARENT GROUP
MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2018 MEETING
Roth Middle School - Conference Room

I. Welcome & Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm. There were 12 parents in attendance, with RH Board of Education representative Diane McBride and Roth Principal Kerry Macko.

II. Approval of October Minutes

No changes. Dan Hentschel motioned to accept; Melissa Holahan seconded.

III. Treasurer's Report – Mark Tanner

No significant changes. Funds raised from Activity Night offset expenses for the event.

IV. Principal's Report – Kerry Macko

- Girl Scouts and PBIS teams engaged in Random Acts of Kindness; student leaders from PBIS teams doing deliveries
- This month, all the grades are donating to Mary's Place
- Natural Helpers is a club at the SHS. The selection process begins in 9th grade; members are selected by students based on a survey administered to all 9th graders. The Roth and Burger Principals are trying to pick the same number of students from each school. If selected, students are asked to complete a 3-day overnight training that is offered by trained social workers and teachers in the district. This training is paid for partially by the district and partially through fundraising. The intention of the program is to identify students that are naturally seen as a source of help to their peers and to provide them with the skills and resources to determine when their friends might need help from an expert. Every year, ~30-40 students are selected to participate in this program. Natural Helpers don't advertise their role; they are intended to be part of the school culture.
- 9th Grade Band and Orchestra teachers would like to take their students to the Masters adjudication @ the SHS.
- Students receiving reading instruction are being linked up with Leary Elementary kids; this will occur sometime in Feb / Mar.
- MAPS assessments are scheduled to occur at the end of the month for 7th & 8th grade students; will occur during Reading or Math.
- The School Improvement Plan for Roth is available on the RH Website at <https://www.rhnet.org/Page/348>
- Nicole Walton (Orchestra teacher) would like to start a Gardening club and is looking for parent support. For instance, assistance may be needed to care for the garden over the summer. Sarah Johnson suggested that Nicole look into a program called Katie's Krops (<https://www.katieskrops.com>) to see if Roth would qualify for a grant for this purpose.

- The RH website was recently updated and redesigned. The project was completed on a very accelerated timeline because the platform that was in use was being decommissioned by the vendor. As a result, there is a lot of cleanup to be done with the new pages so please be patient and report any issues using the Contact Us link on the website. Other points to note about the website:
 - The new RH website works on Chrome and Firefox but not on Internet Explorer.
 - There will be alerts (red exclamation!) that pop up when you go to the district website. After the alert pops up, it will minimize and remain in the lower right-hand corner of the website even as you scroll.
 - Teachers have not yet been trained to manage their websites yet so there may be delays in updates to classroom web pages; the plan is to get this training completed in the next week or so.
- Mrs. Macko is looking for feedback from students on what they might want to see at Roth. Some suggestions from parents include a German club, Robotics / tech club, etc. Mrs. Macko mentioned that students interested in Robotics can join the HFL First Robotics team through Continuing Education. Parents also mentioned that it would be nice to know what clubs are available and if this information could be posted on the Roth website.

V. Update from Book Fair – Laura Borate

- The total collected from the Roth Book Fair was \$779; 35 books and one small class set. There is still \$100 in Scholastic dollars remaining so the Librarian is looking for recommendations / suggestions. There was also discussion about when the best time might be for next year's book fair since there was light attendance this year during the parent conference days. Parents suggested holding the book fair during curriculum night / open house.
- The Roth Librarian is also planning to reopen the Bookstore; the idea would be for kids to attend a monthly meeting (after school) and have the bookstore open during lunches. If this approach is successful and parent volunteers can assist, hours may be extended to include before or after school. Parents did agree that it would be easier to shop at the bookstore if it was open before / after school.

VI. Board Update – Diane McBride

- Applications for the Superintendent Search are due by January 19th; goal is to have a candidate selected by end-March/beginning of April. Anyone in the Rush-Henrietta community can volunteer to participate in the Superintendent Search; details are available on the RH website. The deadline to do this is January 12th.
- The Board will be looking at a 3-year plan for the RH budget in the coming weeks.

VII. District Committee Reports

District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC) – Here are some of the key takeaways from the last DPAC meeting:

- Homework should be purposeful
- Everyone is empowered to call 911 in an emergency and then follow-up with Principal etc.
- Fyle PTO made an interesting use of their funds; they dedicated some of the funds they raised to the development of a STEM room. Mrs. Macko suggested that the parent group take a tour of the new STEAM room at the next parent group meeting in March.
- The Diversity committee should be put in place by Spring; the district is looking for people who want to be a part of the committee.
- The SchoolTool bug has been fixed.
- School Pictures can be coordinated across parent groups to get multi-school discount
- Transportations schedules are still under review
- The Parent survey will be going out Feb 8th-16th (week before February break)

Multi-cultural Parent Advisory Council (MPAC) – presentation from Chair of Special Education Department with overview of Special Ed; MLK event is this Thursday

Rush-Henrietta Music Parents Association (RHMPA) – no update

Budget Advisory Council – no meeting since last Facebook update; structural deficit in district. The committee is working on plan to start addressing this deficit starting next year. For this year, the deficit will be by drawing down funds from reserves. The Budget Advisory Council is also looking for advice from the community on the different options being considered; Dan Hentschel shared some of these options in the Roth Facebook group; feedback is welcome. For instance, out of area busing is expensive and was considered as one of the services that could be dropped going forward; it was considered this year but there was significant pushback from the community.

There was a related discussion that although the RH website suggests that the policy only applies to K-6 students, in practice, 7th-9th graders cannot get dropped off anywhere other than where they are scheduled to be dropped off. Mrs. Macko noted that the Roth buses are packed and therefore, cannot accommodate changes. The website may need to be updated to reflect how this policy is being administered.

Shared Decision Making (SDM) – No Rep.

Space Committee – Report on October and November Meetings. October's meeting focused on this year's student projection. Actual census was very close to projected numbers- 5,339 students district wide, and about 400 kindergarten students. November's meeting focused on future projection, going ahead 5 years. Discussed saving space in specific schools to accommodate new residential building plans. This committee has finished it's work for this school year and there will be no more meetings for 2017-18.

VIII. Upcoming Events

- I'm Not a Racist...Am I? documentary being held on January 30th @ 6:30pm at the SHS; <http://Notracistmovie.com>
- Staff Appreciation Breakfast – May 4th -Treasurer Mark Tanner stated that typically the budget for this event is around \$100. Asked for the group to approve increasing budget to \$250. Motion made by Melissa Holohan, seconded by Julie Quinn. All in favor, no opposed. Motion carried- will discuss developing details of this event at the March meeting.

IX. Open Discussion – Kudos / Concerns / Challenges

- None noted.

Next Meeting – March 12th, 6:30pm

Meeting adjourned @8:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Samantha Singhal, Secretary

Attachments:

Minutes of October, 2017 Meeting
Treasurer's Report

ROTH PARENT GROUP 2017/2018

January 8, 2018

TREASURER'S REPORT

Account Balance as of last report (October , 2017) = \$3,230.85

New Activity Details	Income	Expenses	Totals
Cash bank for fun night		320.00	
Expenses for family fun night (candy)		82.07	
Total Activity: 9/18/17 – 1/8/18		\$ 402.07	\$ 402.07

2017 – 2018 SCHOOL YEAR ACTIVITY TO DATE			Totals
Beginning Balance as of 9/18/2017			\$ 3,230.85
Income for 17/18 school year	0.00		\$ 0.00
Expenses for 17/18 school year		402.07	\$ 402.07
Balance as of 1/8/2018			\$ 2,828.78

2016/2017 Beginning Balance = \$ 2,723.39

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark C. Tanner
Treasurer