

ROTH PARENT GROUP
MINUTES OF MAY 2, 2016 MEETING
Roth Middle School - Conference Room

I. Welcome & Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.. Samantha Singhal introduced Diane McBride, RH Board of Education, for her 2016-2017 Budget presentation.

II. 2016-17 Budget – Diane McBride, RH Board of Education

Ms. McBride shared details on the 2016-17 School Proposed School Budget:

- Shared proposed budget is good news – we continue to have great learning opportunities for our students in this district.
- Shared that we are fortunate to continue to offer small class sizes, for which we should be proud.
- Shared that we are moving forward with the school configuration and continue to allow for both our district students and teachers to be successful into the future.
- Shared that the budget will allow the district to:
 - Keep services at current levels
 - Keep small class sizes
 - Keep technology forefront in the classroom
 - Allow for music equipment for 4th grade band
 - Keep Science and Technology funding
 - Replace district dump truck and snow plow
 - Set aside some funds for the minimum wage increase
 - Provide opportunities for teacher development, recertification to support the school reorganization efforts. (4th-6th grade teachers, for example)
- The increase to the tax base will be modest – less than 1% over last year. Tax Levy remains under the cap at 2.35%. We are a good value in the area. Families can move here and thrive.

Questions from group for Ms. McBride:

- *How do we maintain such a low tax base?*
 - Our business tax base helps our taxes remain the lowest in the county.
- Did the state gap funding stay in place?
 - Yes, the district is to receive the gap funding. It's not any more than it has been but the state didn't take it away this year.

The School Vote is set for May 17th, 2016. Find details and a link to the budget newsletter shortly on the district website at www.rhnet.org. Diane McBride officially thanked Amy Rowe, Roth Parent Group Co-Chair, for facilitating the *Meet the Candidates* night on 4/27. Rush Henrietta board of directors Candidates Rhonda Delaney and Simeon Banister were in attendance at this meeting.

III. Principal's Report - Denise Zeh

Ms. Zeh shared details the end of year communication mailed to each students home:

- Get ready for the end of year activities! Refer to the mailing sent home to keep track of all of the exciting happenings including concerts, ceremonies, exams, and other important dates to keep on calendar. The letter is also available on the Roth Middle School page.
 - 6th grade – LOTE choices due soon. ASL, German, French and Spanish continue to be offered to those students looking to secure the credit for foreign language. Some teachers are also getting ESL certifications.
 - 7th grade – STEAM choices due soon.
 - 8th grade – Ninth Grade Academy orientation was held April 21st.
- Teacher Appreciation Day is Tuesday, May 3rd. Staff appreciation breakfast upcoming Friday, May 6th. Ms. Zeh thanked the parent group for doing that for staff.

IV. Treasurer's Report – Mark Tanner

Mark presented Treasurer's Report. Recent expenses include \$698.75 for sling bags for 8th grade graduation student gifts and preparations for the Staff Appreciation Breakfast. Income and expenses on target with last year's figures.

V. Vote on Updated RPG By-Laws

Samantha shared the updated RPG By-Laws document highlighting the changes made to the document. Mainly updates were made to the document to help it be more in line with how the group operates today. She asked for a vote on the updated RPG By-Laws – it was motioned by Cheryl Ellsworth and seconded by Mark Tanner. All were in favor. The new document will be on file for reference.

VI. Open Board positions for 2016-17

Rhonda Boas-Blue, current RPG secretary is moving on to Ninth Grade Academy. The secretary position is open starting the 2016-17 year. Please see Amy Rowe or Samantha Singhal for details and more information.

VII. District Committee Reports

Budget Advisory Committee (BAC)

No report.

District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC)

Last meeting discussed transportation, water testing, and Parent Forum Priorities.

Rush-Henrietta Music Parents Association (RHMPA)

No report. Cheryl Ellsworth shared that association has summer music learning scholarships available.

Space Committee

No report. Meetings are done until the Fall of 2016.

Shared Decision Making (SDM)

Ms. Zeh shared that the group will meet sometime before end of the year.

VIII. Open Discussion – Kudos/Concerns/Challenges

N/A. Ms. Zeh thanked the parent group for its involvement and continued efforts and cultivation of parent involvement through the Roth Parent Group Facebook page.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda L. Boas-Blue, Secretary

Attachments:

Treasurer's Report
Roth Parent Group By-Laws
2016-17 Proposed School Budget
Roth End of Year Events Communication