

REEF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**October 8, 2014
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM**

REEF Meeting (public meeting open to all members)

Board Member Roll Call/Establish Quorum: (✓ if present at meeting)

Directors (Expiring 6/15)		Directors (Expiring 6/16)		Non-Voting Members	
✓	<i>Kristin Story ~ Vice President</i>	✓	<i>Sabrina Koceman ~ President</i>	✓	<i>Dr. Donna Ronzone ~ Principal</i>
✓	<i>Chris Davis ~ Secretary</i>	✓	<i>Stella Pynn ~ Vice President</i>		
	<i>Lisa Hall ~ eblasts (late arrival)</i>	✓	<i>Tammi Flemming ~ Treasurer</i>	✓	<i>Alison Throop ~ Teacher Liaison</i>
	<i>Gina Andrews ~ Hospitality</i>	✓	<i>Eric Schenker</i>		
✓	<i>Angela Moloney Braverman ~ AF</i>	✓	<i>Kent Mixon ~ PR</i>		
✓	<i>Ian Jay</i>	✓	<i>Doug Throop ~ Parliamentarian</i>		
	<i>Graham Lyons - RESIGNED</i>	✓	<i>Jessica Rubio-Ashtiani</i>		

I. Board Meeting (5:30-6:00)

a. Welcome/Roll Call/General Board Business

- Chris took roll call to establish quorum & circulated the sign in sheet. Approval of meeting minutes was postponed to the general meeting to allow Jen Brown to discuss Grants early in the meeting.
- Sabrina talked about food preparations for Fall Ball. Homemade Mexican food by Roosevelt parents will again available at the Fall Ball. In addition, pizza will be served.
- There was a discussion on how best to reach out and unite the Roosevelt community. One idea was to make outreach posters. Mr. Senzamici & Ms. Phelps (6th grade teachers) suggested that the 6th graders would love to make posters for community outreach. Sabrina will follow up on this idea.

b. Grants

- Jen Brown spoke about the grant process and grant opportunities for Roosevelt school. She mentioned that the most feasible option for Roosevelt could be a program grant. Grants require submittal of financials, board member lists, and they are typically very specific in terms of restrictions and requirements. Before pursuing a potential grant it's important to know what is required from the school, PTO foundation, principal, and the district. When submitting a grant you would be typically asked for a budget with specific line items, donors, board of director's information, and goals for what you plan to do with the money. Often there are restrictions on the time for when the money

can be use. Grants are a lot more complicated than securing money through an individual donor. The hardest grants to obtain are operational grants.

- Some grants are less restrictive and are fairly small amounts, called Flash grants. Santa Barbara Bank & Trust/ Union Bank have in the past granted \$500 flash grants to schools but the climate is changing for these individual small grants and Title 1 targeted school are receiving more favorable funding.
- The Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation has grants for performing arts. If we have a theatre production it is possible we could get a Flash grant through the Bowl Foundation.
- The climate for arts funding is changing to District-wide plans, for example last spring the outreach group Santa Barbara County Alliance for Arts Education formed to talk about the lack of art equity in schools and how to improve things. The committee worked all summer and came up with the idea of a Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) Coordinator that would work at the District and would be partially privately funded for 3 years. This coordinator does still need to be approved by the School Board, but has already been approved by Dr. Cash. Private donors will fund the coordinator position on a sliding scale basis over the three years, with the District assuming the entire cost in the fourth year.

II. Board Meeting (6:00-7:30)

a. Welcome

- The general meeting began at 6:05 PM.
- A translator was present for those who would like translation services.

b. ASEP Update

- ASEP registration is online and is up and running. Sarada Lewis & Tiziana DeAngelis helped get the online registration up and running. Mari continued to help transition the ASEP program to the new volunteers. Thank you!
- The ASEP committee is communication to the Roosevelt parents via eblast, information in the Thursday folders, tele-parent, and posters around campus.

c. Principal report

- Roosevelt now has a school councilor (Becky Hurst) 5 days per week which is fully funded through the district. Roosevelt also has a family councilor funded through the district that we will share with Washington. Roosevelt is thrilled to have them on-board.
- A part-time Art teacher was hired yesterday. She will start within the next couple of weeks.
- Roosevelt has 611 kids right now.
- Teachers will be out 8-10 days this year developing units aligned with the Common Core curriculum for Science, Math, and English Language Arts.

d. Safe Passage Project – Fred Sweeney

- The Upper East Association, Rivera Association, and Mission Canyon Association has been working with over 30 citizens over the last 3 ½ years regarding safe passages from Roosevelt school to Foothill Road. This area is highly used for walking, biking, horseback riding, skateboarding, driving. 100's of children use this corridor each year.

- Mr. Sweeney asked for help from Roosevelt school for data regarding the average number of kids that travel that area per year. Kristin Story asked if Dr. Ronzone could help estimate this figure.
- Mr. Sweeney presented the Vision Master Plan for this area, called the Mission Heritage Trail Association.
- On Dec 10th (10AM) will be the first major public hearing for this project at the county planning commission office. Mr. Sweeney encouraged the Roosevelt community to support the project and participate in the community dialogue. The project would likely be a 10-15 year project. Kristin asked how can we best to support this project. Mr. Sweeney responded: by writing letters to the planning commission and staying informed.

e. Parent Handbook/Public Relations

- Kent provided an update on the revised Roosevelt Parent Handbook. The Parent Handbook is currently being translated (English & Spanish) and will be available online on the Roosevelt website soon. Kent said it would be a good idea to give a hardcopy of the Parent Handbook to all new Roosevelt parents and TK/kindergarten parents.
- A suggestion was mentioned to send out an eblast announcement with a bio about the new part-time art teacher.
- Another suggestion was to add the board members, teachers, curriculum specialist's pictures and bios on the website. And add a video link with teacher interviews explaining how important curriculum specialists are. Kent said he would help coordinate some of these ideas.

f. Roosevelt Apparel

- Eric asked about apparel and if we needed a line item in the budget to purchase additional apparel. Tammi explained that this is included in the budget as a self-funded program.
- Renata Valladares asked if the T-shirts/apparel are made sweatshop free. Kent said he would look into it and she said that she would help Kent with that.
- Kent and Eric at every coffee connection and other events such as Fall Ball selling Roosevelt apparel.

g. Green Committee

- The Roosevelt Green Committee consists of approximately 8 parents so far, and include engineers, artists, teachers, and people from different backgrounds. The goal of the Green Committee is to help the kids understand the environment. The Green Committee asked for a one-time donation of \$436.97 to plant native/drought tolerant plants in the planter box area near the location where coffee connection occurs. The committee would maintain the plants once they are planted.
- Kristin opened the discussion.
- Kent suggested that we plant the plants when it gets a little cooler and less water would be required. It takes a lot of water to establish new plants.
- The committee explained that they have been planning this program for quite some time and are eager to plant and it's not a significant area to be overly concerned with water usage.

- Dr. Ronzone said there is a form that would need to be filled out. There are currently restrictions on water use. Roosevelt has stopped watering some grass areas on campus.
- The board suggested that the committee come back with information on the estimated water use for this plot.
- Sabrina made a motion to approve the donation of \$436.97 for the Green Committee to plant native/drought tolerant plants, Stella seconded the motion, 15 voted in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention. The motion passes.

h. Grants

- Jen Brown was not present during the general meeting so Kristin summarized the topics that Jen presented during the earlier board meeting. Kristin said that if we pursue any grants it has to be something that Roosevelt can use and is appropriate for our community. She mentioned that there are more opportunities for individual donors.
- Eric asked if there have been any volunteers for pursuing grants. None have come forward.

i. REEF Duties & Committees

- We are happy to announce that all current positions are now filled.
- Rose Run, ASEP, Yearbook are all now filled. We still need grade level volunteers to take pictures of every kid for the yearbook.
- Veronica Gallardo said it would be great to have the 6th graders participate in writing parts of the year book. Mr. Senzamici is open to helping to facilitate this idea.

j. Odyssey of the Mind

- Mr. Lovejoy talked about the Odyssey of the Mind program. He would like to enter the 4th grade class into the competition. The cost is \$135 to join and for the competition books. The books could be shared with other teachers in other grades who would like to implement the program and potentially participate in a school-wide competition. Only one project can be entered in the Odyssey of the Mind competition with purchase of the \$135 program fee.
- Kristin made a motion to approve REEF funding the \$135 fee for the Odyssey of the Mind program, Kent seconded the motion, 17 voted in favor, none opposed, and none abstained. The motion passes.

k. Other Business

- Eric reported he was following up on the President's request to address the question of "what is an appropriate amount to hold in reserve" and distributed a one page memo intended to stimulate the thought process in preparing for that discussion. Eric requested this item be added to the next meeting's agenda.
- Student Directory is available now and is \$5.00
- Annual Fund update – we are at 28% of our goal. 46 families have donated.
- REEF Scholastics Books – Angela made a motion to approve, Kristin seconded the motion, 17 voted in favor, none opposed, and none abstained. The motion passes.
- A parent asked a question about AIRE and why we are hiring a part-time art teacher instead of continuing with the AIRE program. Mr. Senzamici explained that the overall general consensus from the teachers and staff was that the AIRE program wasn't everything they hoped it would be. They were happy that they tried it out, but at the end of the year last year the teachers/staff decided that it wasn't what they

wanted to do again. As teachers, they didn't feel like it was a successful program for Roosevelt.

- **Meeting Minutes** – Meeting minutes are typically discussed during the Board meeting (5:30-6:00), but due to scheduling conflicts meeting minutes were discussed at the end of the general meeting. 17 voted in favor to approve the September 10 REEF meeting minutes with additional changes provided by Kent during the meeting, none opposed, and none abstained. The motion passes.
- **Financial Reports** – Financial reports are typically discussed during the Board meeting (5:30-6:00) but due to scheduling conflicts meeting minutes were approved at the end of the general meeting 76K checking, 119 money market, adds up to \$296K. Eric asked for clarification why the revenue amounts per the approved budget do not agree to the treasurer's current monthly reporting. The treasurer reported the answer is identified in the approved budget footnotes. Stella made a motion to approve the financial reports, Angela seconded the motion, 15 voted in favor (some people had left and did not vote), none opposed, and none abstained. The motion passes.
- **Meeting Adjourned at 7:55 PM.**