

REEF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**December 10, 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>Alison Throop ~ Teacher Liaison</i>
✓	<i>Lisa Hall ~ eblasts (late)</i>		<i>Tammi Flemming ~ Treasurer</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>Jessica Rubio-Ashtiani</i>		

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

a. Welcome/Roll Call/General Board Business

- Sabrina – called the meeting to order at 5:38 PM.
- Sabrina mentioned that the variety show last night was great. Big thanks to Mr. Senzamici for organizing the event.
- Chris took roll call to establish quorum. Quorum established at 5:50 PM. Sign in sheet was circulated.
- **Meeting Minutes:** Chris reviewed the changes made to the November meeting, Kristin motioned to approve the minutes, Stella seconded the motion, 7 members voted yes to approve the meeting minutes. The motion passes.
- **Washington School Grant Writer/Program Developer Update:** [Note: Since Doug was absent, Sabrina provided the following update as reported to her by Doug]. Doug Throop researched the Washington school grant writer/program developer – He found that the grants received by Washington was nowhere near \$60k (as some had suggested during previous REEF meetings). According to Doug’s research, the Washington school grant writer/program received one small grant from the Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation and organized a lobster dinner fundraiser. The program developer has now resigned and Washington has no intention of hiring a replacement.
- Eric mentioned that this is not consistent with the information that he gathered from a board member of Washington.
- Dr. Ronzone said that she talked with last year’s principle and the new principle this year and her sources confirm Doug’s research.

- Bottom line is that if Washington is getting grants then we want to know about it, but given discussions with the Washington principle and other staff, this is just not the case.
- Gina said if we want to do a fundraiser such as a lobster boil – she will help support that. Perhaps we could charge \$150 per ticket.
- If someone has time to organize it then we would support it. Anyone interested can come up with some ideas and present it to the board.
- **Rummage Sale:** Mr. Senzamici said that the first year of the rummage sale they raised \$800, the second year they raised \$2,000. This spring (April 11th) will be the 3rd annual rummage sale. It would be great to send out an eblast announcement to promote the sale and ask for donations. There is talk about also including a mini car show at the back of the parking lot to help get more people to come. 6th graders organize & sort the sale items the day before the sale and receive community service hours. Donations are dropped off at Roosevelt the whole week before the sale. It would be great to also sell baked goods and neighborhood produce. There was some talk about renting a storage unit so that items can be collected and stored even longer, but the board agreed that the added cost was not justified.

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

a. Welcome

- The general meeting began at 6:04 PM.

b. Principles Report

- Ms. Alvarez (the new Art Teacher) prepared a slide show of children's art work for us to enjoy during the REEF Meeting.
- The second group of art students (Grades 2, 4, 6) will start in February.
- Roosevelt currently has 624 students.
- Winter concert will be held next Wednesday evening in the auditorium.
- The variety show went very well yesterday & last night – it was a hit! Well done!
- Due to rainy weather, the Character Counts awards ceremony has been changed to Monday.
- Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) testing is going smoothly. The computer lab is working out great and every child doing testing is able to work on a computer.
- Eric had a question regarding the art teacher – asking if the board still operated with concerns that at some point this art position would have to turn into a permanent position. Eric asked when the board would need to decide if we would like to retain the art teacher for next year. Sometime in the spring the REEF board should let Dr. Ronzone know if REEF plans to continue to fund an art teacher.
- 1st grade curriculum specialist started 2 weeks ago, reading intervention school site council money is being used to pay for reading intervention support. Roosevelt currently has 5 student teachers. This is one of the best years at Roosevelt for support staff. REEF is funding 5 curriculum specialists and Dr. Ronzone is funding 2 curriculum specialists.
- Roosevelt is looking for new garden area ideas, but at this time no new garden areas have been identified. Space is limited at Roosevelt.

- There are currently 6 staff supervising lunch activities. We have good support staff, this has been a good year.
- License Vocational Nurse (LVN) –2 LVNs were interviewed today. The hired LVN will work 6 hrs per day, 5 days per week, and the district will pay the LVNs salary
- Discussion of lice – nurse has checked everybody this week. Lice is gone!

c. Financial Report

- Sabrina presented the financial report (Tammi was absent). REEF currently has \$364K, checking account is \$126K, and \$219K is in money market accounts, CDs will be set up.
- Axxess fundraiser: \$3K was raised for 6th grade, \$2.5K was raised for 5th grade, \$4K was raised for 4th grade.
- The Annual Fund has raised \$57K, we have reached 50.4% of our total goal for annual fund.
- Expenses for the month included: ASEP, childcare, translation, buses for 3rd grade botanic garden, scholastic, storage unit, bills copy, art supplies, curriculum specialist. All checks have been previously approved.
- Eric mentioned that the Annual fund is up 66% from where we were last year. This equates to a \$16K increase from last year at this same time.
- Fall ball raised 51% more compared with last year (increase of \$2,732) – 51% increase
- Stella moved to approved the financial reports, Kristin seconded the motion, 7, 1 abstain, motion passes. 7 members voted yes to approve the financial reports and 1 member abstained. The motion passes.
- It was agreed that we will move the financial reports discussion to the pre-board meeting for now on.

d. Annual fund Update

- Angela gave a brief update of the Annual Fund: \$52K raised/pledged as of today, an Annual Fund update sheet will go out in the Thurs folder tomorrow.
- 22% of Roosevelt families have donated. 91 total have donated but we have 425+ families at Roosevelt.
- Challenges are communication of how we get the message out. We could do better.
- We need to get to the other 50% of families that can donate.
- Angela raised concerns about the fundraising culture at Roosevelt. Sabrina suggested a subcommittee to look at our fundraising and see what improvements can be made. Angela would be happy to be on that committee.
- Dimma a parent at the meeting mentioned that some families are saving their money for the Rose Run so that the kids get a prize.
- We need a liaison to approach and bridge the gap. REEF is to raise money and bring community together. Need to change the culture, environment, and attitude.
- Chris mentioned that the suggested donation amount of \$500 per kid is a turn off for some families who just can't pay that. Eric disagreed, he thinks we need to mention a suggested donation with additional wording to communicate that no donation is too small and every dollar amount donated counts.

- Lisa suggested matching or prize incentives. Eric suggested accumulating donation points throughout the year and award prizes based on combined Annual Fund and Rose Run contributions.
- Ms. Warwick explained that it's the delivery of the message & the communication system is not getting to all the families.
- Sharron & Dimma (parents) said they would help with fundraising in general.
- Whoever would like to be on the Fundraising Subcommittee, please email Angela & Sabrina.

e. Cultural Arts

- Kristin Story gave an update on the Cultural Arts events planned/in-progress. Alley cats is scheduled.
- Another event at the SB Bowl for 4th – 6th graders is a possibility. The event is free and a good opportunity. However, the buses aren't free. We would need to provide buses because it's too far to walk. The event is on April 22nd & includes Dance and Music. The event would be worthwhile.
- Potential Hip-hop classes K-1, 2, 3, or 1-3. Residence for 3-4 weeks (M, W, F), we could use it as PE class. Britney is the instructor, and it would be organized through the children's creative project.
- Eric asked about the Bully seminar and other such seminars offered by the local affiliate of Love and Logic courses. Eric mentioned we haven't had any parent directed seminars yet this year and they are a good way to reach the new families, especially kindergartner parents. Eric asked if there has been progress made and offered support to Kristin to help. Kristin said she is working on the big ones now and will fill in the smaller events as time allows.
- Sabrina said she would call regarding the Bully seminar, maybe we could bring it back for the parents.

f. Party Book

- Mari – talked about bringing back party book. Volunteers could give parties to raise money and bring community together. They would be reimbursed for the party expenses. Ideas for party book: ladies night kid parties, progressive parties with multiple families, holiday crafts, anyone can come up with an idea and present it to the board for approval.
- Dima mentioned doing a restaurant night to raise money – Chick Filet, CPK, etc.

g. 4th Grade Fundraising – Jen Brown

- 4th grade fundraiser chair (Jen Brown) summarized 4th grade fundraising efforts so far this year. Fall movie days raised \$3,400 – there were over 100 kids participating, March 16th -20th movie days will occur again during parent/teacher conferences. Axxess fundraiser raised over \$2K for 4th grade. The parents night out fundraiser will occur from 7-10pm Friday night Feb 20th @ the Santa Barbara Winery. The space has been donated, the food donated, wine we are getting at cost, restaurants are donating great food. The cost will be \$50 per person, \$25 for teachers and staff -- we want them to attend! The Santa Barbara band "The Kinds" will be performing for FREE! We

expect 62 couples and in January we'll spread the word. Don't miss out on this great event!

- ***Meeting Adjourned at 7:28 PM.***