

# **Riverside Community Council**

## **Monthly Meeting Agenda**

### **May 16, 2019**

Present: Katie Vallier, Leah Flanigan, Meri Robert, Jessica Perkins, Tanya Kennedy, Michelle Sohn, Heysha Whittaker, Jess & Chris Rossignol, Losi Williams, Elizabeth Adorno, Jenn Nadeau

Staff Present: Casey Guiheen, Callie Mish, Valerie Nunez, Paul Carolan

Welcome:

- Co-President Jenn Nadeau and Treasurer Elizabeth Adorn welcomed attendees to our last full RCC meeting of the year.

2019-2020 Officer Elections:

- Current Co-President, Jenn Nadeau introduced all of the nominees and explained the election process.
- The vacant Co-President position can have one person fill it and it is a 2 year term to allow consistency so that there is not turnover of the entire executive board every year. The other positions can all have 2 people in them and are for 1 year each.
- Ballots were handed out and everyone was given the opportunity to vote.
- Newly elected candidates are: Co-President: Jessica Rossignol, Secretary: Kara Richardson, Treasurer: Meri Robert and Elizabeth Adorno, Fundraising Chair: Katie Vallier and Heysha Whittaker, Family Engagement Chair: Lois Williams. Jenn Nadeau will continue as Co-President as she has one year remaining on her term.

Calendar of Events

- RCC Sponsored: The RCC is hosting one additional dine out night on June 3rd from 4-8pm at Chipotle in Glastonbury. We are also coordinating the basket raffle that takes place at the Spring concert that is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year. Basket themes are as follows: Pre-K: Family Game Night, K: Crafting, 1st: Baking, 2nd: Pool/Beach Day, 3rd: Outdoor Adventures, 4th: Movie Night, 5th: Family Road Trip. Donations are being accepted through tomorrow morning at drop off.
- School Events: Casey Guiheen gave an update on the rest of the school events for the remainder of the year that were listed on the calendar that was sent home to families.

Treasurer's Report:

- Elizabeth gave a report of the revenue generated and expenses since the last meeting.

School Year End Wrap Up:

- Jenn Nadeau provided an update of the events that the RCC hosted in the past year. 2 events at Jump Off/Flight, 2 spirit wear sales, family dining at Panera, Family Dance, support of Watch Dogs program, support of 5th grade fundraising events (pasta dinner and BINGO), Family Bowling, Yard Goats, Talent Show and Teacher Experiences raffle, snacks for teachers during conferences, donuts and coffee during teacher appreciation; still to come: family dining at Chipotle, Basket Raffle Fundraiser during the concert,

Popsicles for Field Day. The group reflected on how much has been done in the past 2 years since getting this group up and running as an independent parent led organization.

- Paul Carolan who is providing Administrative Support at the school provided a year end wrap up from school administration. He stated that teachers are completing their end of year assessments and evaluating student's growth over the course of the year. He reported that there is a parent survey that goes out at this time of year that will help them to set goals for next year. He suggested that in order to increase participation, to have paper copies of the survey available at conferences. He discussed that they are working on the moving up ceremony for 5th graders; every student will get an opportunity to stand up and speak about what they've learned and/or what their experience has been like at RMS. He also discussed the new curriculum that they have brought to fifth grade students to talk about puberty called "growing and changing." He reflected on what a great school RMS is and how much the teachers and staff are invested in the students here.

#### Future Planning

- To wrap up the meeting, we discussed as a group suggestions for events to help families stay connected during the Summer as well as events or activities that people would like to see next year. These are suggestions from the group:
  - Tailgating in the school parking lot, allow families to come socialize
  - Picnic on the playground (summer event)
  - Movie night - either look into what is already offered in surrounding towns or look into running our own at the school.
  - Party bus for parents
  - Brewery/Winery/Distillery social for parents
  - Plan dine out nights at local restaurants on the nights that there are school events - families are already looking for places to eat at in between school and the event, so it's a win-win.
  - Parent night out prior to the holidays - parents can drop off their kids at the school for babysitting for a fee, would need parents to sign up and pre-pay to coordinate having enough people present to watch the kids.
  - Look into having events at the school and bring in food trucks that might share a portion of their proceeds.
  - Have donation boxes or "suggested donations" at events. There was discussion about being conscious of having a mix of events - some that are pure family engagement and social events that don't have a cost associated vs. fundraisers where there is a goal to raise money for a cause.
  - We discussed balancing RCC meetings with events; if the goal is to have one event per month, can we have the meeting at the event or prior to the event? We might have more participation then.
- We wrapped up the meeting by thanking everyone for their support this year, especially Casey Guiheen who supports the RCC in many different ways.