



General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, Feb 25 2026

7:00 pm, RHS Black Box

Attendance: Sara Whitehead, Meg Staffeldt, Oksana Coyle, Katie Quigley, Patty Lee, Heidi Murphy, Sarah Pace, Phuong (Diana) Ly, Joseph MacNamara, Beth Vallan

AGENDA

- Welcome from VP-
 - Meg started the meeting at 7:03 PM
 - Introduction of items to be discussed
- Update from Dr. MacNamara
 - Great to see everyone again since our last PTO meeting
 - Updates below- please ask him questions if necessary
 - Scheduling season on its way in March
 - Long process, detailed and starts in January
 - Students on 13th chose elective courses
 - Planning for what to offer comes down to salaries and sections for things. Do we need to hire more staff etc.?
 - Judy Lee runs the process
 - Counsellors go into social studies classrooms to meet with students to plan academic classes

- Complicated process to complete so asking Parents to be patient as all things get figured out
- Elective fair was held to have students gain more interest in electives
- Musical is coming up tomorrow- students had time today to practice during class because of snow cancellations. This is considered as an excused school field trip after 12 pm.
- Board approved our new athletic director- Matt Wicks. Relocated from Florida and oversaw 15 schools in a county. He has impressive resume.
- Matt started today at RHS. There will be a meet and greet session soon. Let him adjust to the new school and event will maybe in April.
- March events and more....
 - Planning meetings done by counselling department
 - How to pay for college? New offering this year.
 - Freshman Semi formal- March 7th at RHS cafeteria.
Tradition at RHS- 9th graders take 12th graders to the dance.
 - Sophomore Semi- March 13th
 - Post Prom for seniors coming up in May. PTO donates to this large effort.
- Counsellors help college and career ready

- New to RHS- when current sophomore rise to senior year, they will work on a personal statement with help from RHS vs needing an outside consultant.
- March 27th ends marking period
- New international café has been a huge hit with the students.
 - Tables and murals that depict international places
 - Students get coffee, smoothies, hot chocolate, muffins, etc.
- Elective window closed, but they need to tell their school counsellors if they want to make changes and Sarah Pace says they still can.
- Counsellors will meet with all students 8-10 school days to get things set for academic classes.
- Question about facilities request- Facilities managers-all go to the new athletics director, Matt Wicks.
- Matt will still allow the balance between sports and arts as previous director did.
- Comment to Sarah pace by Heidi Murphy- admissions case study was really helpful.
- Joe MacNamara added that during the holiday, the school has a room that students can use during Ramadan and Eid to pray and fast.
- Guest Speakers: Patty/Beth from RHSSF
 - Scholarships are based on the FAFSA
 - 25 students were given scholarships last year

- Patty Lee spoke about her background and that she is president of the scholarship fund
- Beth is on the board- is on the selection committee. Also RES rep
 - All volunteer board of governors with PTO liaisons from each school in district
 - Board members, alumni, parents of alumni also involved
 - 501 c3 charitable association- not affiliated with REF
 - Founded in 1966- first awarded in 1967
 - Grown to offer 4 year scholarships from original 1 year
 - 4.6 million dollars in committed funds to their cause
 - Can be used for 4 years, 2 years, and trade programs
 - Approaching 60th anniversary- Gala for anniversary at RVCC in April.
 - They run an annual campaign that helps to fund the scholarships.
 - Name scholarships in honour of an individual/organization and Radnor community scholarships.
 - Host events- kitchen tour, girls night out, etc. to raise money.
 - New initiative- tribute cards that you can make a donation in honour or memory of someone like a teacher etc.
 - Students apply in senior year and work with guidance department and selection is made based on level of need
 - Look at applicants
 - Selection committee interviews candidates

- Amounts can be 2 or 4 years- \$2000-2500 per year and can be stacked onto financial aid packages. Total 8-10k.
- Host event prior to graduation to honour all the recipients
- Sign up to apply with a QR code for those who would like to apply
- Pattiya and Beth brought a display with info etc.
- Questions-
 - Are we the lowest contributing scholarship at RHS?
 - Middle school does not usually give
 - Elementary schools give about 2k
 - Funds can be used for whatever you need it for like books, etc. vs needing to be allocated to the school specifically.
- Committee Reports
 - Multicultural Committee- Diana
 - Potluck is coming up Friday March 13th- 6-8 PM
 - This is the 6th year that they will be holding the event
 - Parents and students, staff, and families participate- 300 people attended last year.
 - Charlene Maestro is the staff rep.
 - REF has given them a grant this year to help fund
 - Opportunity for students to volunteer
 - People can sign up to bring food for 8 stations
 - PTO committee contributes food as well
 - MLK Day/Coffee with Ken recap

- 15-20 people attended coffee
 - Great food
 - School board member there as well as past school board members and principal were there
 - Casseroles for MLK Day went well. Made 400 but they ran out of ingredients. May need to change type of casserole because of costs of hot dogs. Need to look into structuring casserole making timing and clearly communicate when that will happen.
 - Toiletries were also collected.
 - Thank you to Anna for chairing. Great turn out even with snow delay.
- Treasurer's report
 - We have about 12K of donations to be disseminated
 - Moving forward we need to structure our budget to reflect possible donations being less
 - Don't need concessions for theatre to be a line item for PTO budget. District wide will handle
 - Grant Application Voting
 - CHOP Club (Sophia Diamond/Sophia Laaguiby)- Joseph MacNamara spoke on behalf of the club
 - *Ms Semar is faculty advisor. This is an extension of middle school mini thon for CHOP. March 20th event 10 am to 6 PM. Have already raised 2k. First year for this effort so it will be smaller. They have about 100 students signed up to participate and goal is 200 students. Games, food, activities, music. Seeking support from the PTO for their event.

\$500 Grant- food, expenses for marathon, funding their overall goal. Trying to raise 10k by the end of the school year.

Patti Lee asked about if other clubs have asked for grants and just how we are prepared to handle this if many more students start seeking funds from us. Comments were made on how we have a specific process for grants and all student club grants go through Dr. Mac.

Vote- 9 yes and 1 abstain

-Radnor Academy (Stacy Hoffman)- Meg Staffeldt spoke on behalf of Stacy *9-12, individualized programming in a flexible environment. Trying to promote positive attendance for students who are not traditional learners. Online learning as well as in person. Help students get to the finish line to graduate. Non-traditional approach to school. These students miss free breakfast opportunity that others are afforded. They are looking for money to purchase a small chest freezer to store healthier options and promote better eating habits in a safe environment. The freezer would be kept in their classroom.

\$450 Grant

Vote-10 yes

-RHS Counselling (Sarah Pace)- Sarah Pace spoke on behalf of the Counsellors.

*Sarah Pace presented about bringing speaker, Jeffery Selingo, author of Dream School, to RHS to speak to our community about research-based admissions offices information for students and parents that provides framework for the college admissions experience. 3 parts to the event- 5 colleges offer workshops for students in the afternoon, main event will have a presentation by Jeff with a ted talk and q & a that will shed light on current trends on how to look for fit, finally a college fair with 20 schools will take place. The will be schools with a higher than 20% acceptance rate. RHS is questioning what does college success mean! Providing a framework for parents and students to engage in a college conversation in a less stressful way. Will target 10th and 11th grade. Outreach to 9th and middle school as well. Received a REF grant and support from administration. Colleges that attend are also paying a fee to cover cost. Main point books will collaborate as well. Will be free but it will be a ticketed event. Link on website to purchase tickets and to get books from Main point books is forthcoming.

\$500-Grant from PTO is requested to help with refreshments for the evening for colleges attending and marketing materials.

Vote: 9 yes 1 abstain

- New Business-
 - Board positions for next year for the PTO are coming up soon so please nominate anyone you know who might be interested.
 - Dr. Mac thanked everyone
- Adjournment

Katie Quigley moved to adjourn and Sara Whitehead seconded.