



Meeting date:	October 3, 2018
Time (Start/Adjourn):	6:00 - 8:05 PM EST
Attendance Total:	16
Members:	Kerry Labovitz, Tasha Benson, Brigitte McCarthy, Rachel Gritzer, Kierstie Keller, Kim Piela, Katie Cerasoli, Suzanne Lull, Jacquie DeFreze, Nina Parrott, Michelle Bingham, Carla Cole, Celeste Christo, Stephanie Driscoll, Claire Spollen, Laurin Flynn,

Agenda Items/Notes

1. Co-Presidents' Report

i. Events for 2018-2019

- Survey was sent asking opinions on events such as Daughter Dance, Son's Night, Monster Mash
- 79 families responded to the survey
- General feedback showed interest in non-gender specific events and incorporate more family events (family dance vs. father/daughter dance)
- Suggested family events included:
 - Bike parade
 - Community event, could align with bike week.
 - Would need to get police and fire department support
 - End with a cookout at Parson's field
 - Could involve local bike shops
 - Not restricted to just bikes: scooters, tricycles, etc.
 - Could coordinate with local sports to find a date that works best for parade
 - If weekend, noted that Sunday might work best later in the afternoon
 - Discussed Thursday evening so it didn't cut into the weekend
 - Race could be incorporated and people could register/pay a cost to participate in the race component
 - Could ask people to lend any unused equipment in case some kids need to borrow something to participate
 - Wellness Committee - Family Game Night
 - Could align with wellness week
 - Community Bonfire
 - Family Dance
 - In lieu of Son's Night and Daughter Dance
 - May was the highest preference of timeframe for a dance, but with other spring events it might be too many in that timeframe; suggested having it in February around Valentine's Day
 - Rename to "Someone Special Snowflake Ball" – kids can choose their someone special or family can attend
 - Suggested a Friday night so it leaves the weekend more open if people are going out of town for skiing, etc.
 - Need to consider the number of people and if there is a space that could accommodate everything (if it is K-8) as it has been in the past

- PTA will look into attendance last year between the schools (how many RES vs. RJH)
 - The events planned would be open to everyone
- Motion made to move forward with planning the “someone special snowflake ball” and bike parade
 - Nina 1st, 2nd, all in favor, none opposed
- ii. **November bake sale:**
 - Looking for volunteers at Election Day
 - Nina will set up sign up and request space for tables
 - Sign up will go out after conference emails so parents can volunteer around time of their parent/teacher conference
 - If there is a gap in time between volunteers we can set up a jar
- iii. **Playground update**
 - Playground equipment final quote exceeded what was allotted between the school board and PTA
 - Suggestion to take the money marked for RES and do something at RJH in light of the transition of the 5th grade moving to the middle school
 - Suzanne Lull has a group looking at ideas which includes 4th and 5th graders in the research
 - She is still receiving quotes and will look to finalize in the near future

2. Vice President’s Report

i. Grants

- Request 1: Subscription of online tool QUIA for 6th grade teacher submitted by Sheila Adams
 - Amount requested: \$45
 - Included in budget for next year so it just applies for this year only
 - Jacquie 1st, Celeste 2nd, all in favor, none opposed
- Request 2: Reimburse for purchase of chairs in 2nd grade classroom (Maggie Hanna)
 - Amount requested: \$31.96
 - Funds can be used from the classroom materials budget instead of Grand budget
 - Brigitte 1st, Courtney 2nd, all in favor, none opposed
- Request 3: Purchase for multi-use organizers with baskets needed for math center (Maggie Hanna)
 - Amount requested: \$163.94
 - This was an item she didn’t know she needed when moving to the 2nd grade
 - Kierstie 1st, Celeste 2nd, all in favor, none opposed
- Request 4: Purchase birdseed to continue bird study in elementary school
 - Amount requested: \$209.70 (six 35 lb. bags at \$34.95 per bag)
 - Price is from Nature’s Outpost
 - PTA recommends Maggie approach Nature’s Outpost for a discount; have the students write a letter as part of the request
 - Recommend that PTA funds some of it and also ask to obtain donations from parents
 - Motions to approve 1 bag (\$34.95) and then ask her to resubmit when she investigates discount
 - Kerry 1st, Courtney 2nd, all in favor, none opposed
- Request 5: Additional barrels and liners for Composting (Suzanne Lull)
 - Amount requested: \$843 for the service of 2 more larger totes and 5 cases of liners
 - 5 containers quoted – it is in the RES budget next year based on what we are using this year
 - Students used to stack the trays but it became difficult for younger kids and it didn’t make a huge difference in volume

- Last year's grand for \$1702.80 grant included 3 barrels (lined and emptied 17.02 for 10 months)...liner price was included
- Need a parent to lead initiative at middle school – bringing trays to RES
- Recommended action: Tasha/Kerry will reach out for clarification and revisit this next month

ii. Membership drive

- Currently we have 124 people
- Dues totaled \$1860, an additional \$2405 in donations

3. Treasurer's Report

I. Budget Report

- Current bank amount is approx. \$41K; will be approx. \$44K after the following:
 - Excludes Music Hall grand amount that will be reduced
 - Transferred \$8K from PayPal for ASE1 and donations

4. Secretary's Report

I. Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve meeting minutes for remainder of last year; Minutes approved

II. Monster Mash

- Dance currently will consist of DJ, fortune tellers, ice cream sundae
- Kelly Moores is leading decoration committee; Lauren Kalil is leading raffle baskets; Kierstie Keller is chairing the event
- No haunted house this year as it didn't align to ASE which is where the decorations are built
- DJ is secured
- 7 tubs of ice cream donated (4 from Ice House; 3 from Beach Plum)
- Ice cream from Ice House will be stored at the school prior to event; beach plum will be picked up day of event
- Signups have been distributed and posted for volunteers; Nina has interested kids for the fortune-teller as does Cindy Bean; Kierstie to follow-up
- Need to determine if we will increase sale price and serve pizza; will check for donations from 900 and other local pizza places
 - Lisa Furman can assist in ordering from Dominos or Papa Ginos
- Kierstie to obtain further paper product donations
- Additional activity options may include: Costume contest, costume catwalk, photo booth with characters, maze
- \$750 budget for Monster Mash

5. After-School Enrichment

I. Current status

- ASE profited 20K last year
- Session 2 sign-ups are now live
- Looking into more options for RJH as most of the ASE is for RES
 - This may change next year with 5th grade transitioning to Middle School
- Handbook was created to set expectations and was well received
- Possibly look into an environmental club at RJH

- Look into what other middle schools are doing for ASE
- Nina has considered Outting, Chess, Drone class but it is difficult to find anyone to teach them

6. Other Business

- Motion by Nina to increase the school play budget to \$6750; moving \$1750 from classroom equipment and increasing sponsorship to \$12K which she is leading
 - Kerry 1st, Courtney 2nd, all in favor, none opposed
- There is an REF grant to do something similar to last year at RES; with combined support from PTA
- Joan is putting the grant together for RES; Nina will put the grant together for RJH (non-musical Spring play)
- Interest in bringing back “The Moth” again this year