

Rudder Meeting Minutes March 15, 2016

Members Present: Kim Symon, Kelly Crantford, Joie Linser, Jennifer Garcia, Gina Brenner, Krystan Krailler, Nickole Pope- George, Sarah Gilchrist, Karen Huneke, Sara Sheets, Alex Linser, Stacie Flick, Heather Gerker, Chris Vockell, Krista Clark, Kathy O'Hara, Craig Rozen, Lissa Ellegood

Others Present: Tara Brock, Juliette Miller, Ilka Lenox, Margo Smith-Joseph, Jaren Finney

General Parent Meeting Called to Order at 7:15pm

Jack Aylsworth, Special Guest – Offering all CPS students and family members free access to Rosetta Stone- free accounts will be set up for us. All you need is a head set with a microphone on it. Compatible with Smartphone (Android & Apple), tablets – other devices will pick up where you left off.

New Business – Gina Brenner, Proposed By-Law changes

We started the nomination process and asked ourselves if we like the way that Rudder is currently set up. We realized that now is the time to make the changes to these By-Laws:

7.3.5.2 Typo

7.3.5.3 Bank Balance

8.3.6 Reporter to Communications – Name & Description

11.3.1 Quorum

8.37 & 8.38 Combine Parent-at-Large & Hospitality

8.3 10-12 Teacher Reps (combine positions?)

8.1 & 10.2 Officer Descriptions

Motion to approve the first three proposed by-law changes. Motion seconded. 20 yes votes. Motion passed.

Discussion of additional proposed by-law changes: Gina Brenner - Quorum of 17 voting Rudder members is 13. It says 15 in the by-laws. This is incorrect. Only half of the meetings this year have had quorum, this is an issue. We are not being efficient for our teachers. Two options to solve this issue: we can decrease the number of people on the Rudder or we can decrease the number of people required for quorum. Alex Linser suggested 50% plus one or 2/3 requirement for quorum.

Tara Brock – Would it be manageable to combine the PAL position & Hospitality? We will try to re-distribute the work load more efficiently. Regarding the proposed by-law change of teacher rep positions, Krista Clark expressed the need for two teacher liaisons to help each other. Craig Rozen suggested that we perhaps look for more teacher representation.

Motion to adopt the proposed by-law changes 8.37 & 8.38. Motion seconded. 18 yes votes. Motion passed.

Motion to table the quorum and teacher rep issue. Motion seconded. Motion opposed regarding the tabling of the teacher rep issue. Discussion followed... Tara Brock proposed to amend the motion to table the two issues and separate them as two different motions. Amendment denied. Motion failed by 5 yes votes.

Motion to pass proposed by law change 11.3.1 Quorum. Motion seconded. 19 yes votes, the motion passes and quorum is now set at 2/3. Motion to keep the by-law 8.3 10-12 as is (teacher reps). Motion seconded. Two people voted to change it. Motion failed.

Proposed by law change to Officer Descriptions – motion to table this until a later date. Motion seconded. 22 yes votes. Motion to table this issue passed.

General Parent Meeting adjourned at 8:08pm

Rudder Meeting called to order at 8:23pm

Principal's Report – Jaren Finney (see attached)

LSDMC: Karen Huneke & Alex Linser - Principal's report. Vision 20/20 program – new curriculums are going to be rolled out throughout the district to meet the demand of magnet schools. Montessori curriculum, foreign language, separate gender, etc. A suggestion was made that SMPO include a link on the website to this 20/20 program (on district website).

LSDMC heard a presentation by the artist that made the original triangle outside of our old school building – Sarah Lord had him come to the LSDMC meeting to present the project (costs \$7,000). Does anyone have an avenue for grants for art in public schools? Follow up with Alex Linser...

ILT: Sara Sheets & Craig Rozen

Discussion of in-school suspension. Proposal is to have a more documented schedule of in-school suspension. Stacie Flick mentioned the importance of promoting positive behavior support & mental health services, there is a reason for the behavior and in-school suspension rooms are simply preparing our children for the criminal justice system.

Committee Reports:

Garden Committee, Tara Brock:

Master Landscape Plan is in the works

Two volunteer leaders have been designated

Several grants are in the works

Tower Gardens – a grant through Green Umbrella

Exploring the idea of a kitchen garden

May 14th 9-1 “Go Cincinnati” project happening at Sands to get some work done around the school grounds. Family participation is welcome

Additional areas being explored:

- Funding for a fence around the garden
- The addition of 7 raised beds
- Switch the sheds – move carnival supplies over to the other shed

Business Manager, Jennifer Garcia, Ilka Lenox –

Jen Garcia - Past President has not signed off on the audit that began in the fall.

Ilka Lenox - Is it possible for Rudder to compensate the person in the Business Manager position for their efforts and responsibilities? This person is keeping the books, keeping the money safe, tracking every teacher and the use of direct classroom support funds, every fundraising event, athletics, etc. If they make a mistake they can be accused of something. Suggestion of about \$500 compensation. Discussion followed... Ilka Lenox, Tara Brock, Craig Rozen are willing to step up to research this issue. Can they put together a presentation for the general parent meeting in the spring?

- Read-a-thon made \$11,432
- Forms are now available on the website (check requests, reimbursement forms, etc.)

Kelly Crantford totaled the teacher requests for the use of the \$5,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund Total of \$8,280 was requested. Below are the requests that have been ranked highest via the meritorious application process:

Tara Litmer (Progress Monitoring) - \$99
Annette Delaney (Chess Club) - \$392.19
Sarah Lytle (Playhouse in the Park) - \$500
Jen Toebe (Disability Awareness Program) - \$600
Colleen McHugh (Recipe for Reading materials) - \$1,000
Stefanie Neal (Yearbook cameras) - \$374.21
Traci Cummings (Makerspace) - \$1,500

\$4,465 Total Approved by SMPO

Motion to approve the requests proposed. Motion seconded. Motion not approved - Quorum is no longer available among Rudder members. Email voting will be conducted. Also, Nickole & Kelly are going to ask Melissa Culyer (6-9 teacher requesting funds for team) if the 6-9 team would like to use the remaining \$535 from the Capital Reserve Fund in order to pay for a portion of the requested issues of National Geographic Explorer. Their full request was not accepted by Rudder.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:19pm