

**Robinson Secondary PTSA
Executive Board Meeting
3/13/08**

The regular meeting of the Robinson Secondary PTSA Executive Board was held on 3/13/08 in the Media Center of the Robinson Secondary School. A quorum being present, President, Karen Baxter called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. A list of those in attendance is as follows: (See attachment I)

Karen Baxter, Jeannie Lesko, Paul Glenn, Terry M. Bell, Sarah Fuller, Sharon Brown, Ricka Hanson, Kevin Bell, Ricka Hanson, Kathy Schucik, Kathy Weiner, and Marissa Torres.

Welcome and call to order

We were supposed to have a presentation re: Combating Intolerance Class, the presenter could not be here. This group wants the PTA to support their effort to get books, used/new books to be donated for abused woman's shelter..

President's report

Karen discussed the budget. The sunshine fund is for students who need additional funds for basic needs. We discussed raising the fund of \$1,000 by \$200. One thought would be to increase this fund by the additional funds received from e-script. The number of students who have requested help has grown, although we don't have a current month vs prior year comparison to reference the need has grown. Dan Meier is wary of these requests being abused. Therefore we discussed increasing the budget for this fund for next year.

Kevin Bell moved to put an additional \$400.00 into the Sunshine fund (student support fund). Ricka seconded the motion, this passed unanimously.

Academic letters – 900 letters were given out. We are wondering if an athletic letter is the same as an academic letter, ie a student who gets one, doesn't get another letter. If double letters are handed out, it would be too costly. The booster groups need to coordinate between the two.

Karen discussed the Blackboard system for students to use for their profile. The problem is that the students are not utilizing these features. Dan Meier's idea is that the last three weeks of school would be a great time to get the students to do this work. The parents would support this.

These two items will be brought to Vicki Kagan to address and get back to us.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the 12/12/07 Executive Board Meeting were not distributed for review. Therefore the draft if the minutes is tentatively approved. To be officially approved at the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report

We have made a lot of money from e-scrip, \$7602.19, there is \$31,058 in the bank. Interest income of \$140.38.

Membership, we have a total of 1845.

Discussion: As the need for funds is growing and the funds are tight, there are ideas of ways to raise funds. One idea would be concerning light bulbs, the thought is to filter money through the PTA to sell light bulbs (energy efficient) to raise funds for the PTA to provide money for groups that need the money.

Activity fees will be imposed to fund programs that don't have money this might be a way to fund these programs additionally.

Karen expressed that she doesn't want to decide on the Sunshine fund monies because there are requests coming in for funding all the time.

There was a motion to approve the treasurer's report, the motion was seconded by Paul Glenn. The Treasurer's report was accepted and will be filed for audit.

School Reports

Dan Meier:

Robinson was well supported at the budget meetings. He will speak at the board of supervisors meeting on behalf of high schools in April 2008.

Budget cuts are being discussed; saving money on the mailing of report cards is one area that he feels the school can save money. Interims are also expensive to mail out.

Agenda books are costly, \$18,000 a year. High school agenda books cost the school \$12,000 a year. The students could be required to buy their own.

The course catalogs are expensive and this is another area that savings can be realized.

A lot of schools discuss the lack of time for teachers to collaborate, he feels the parents should have input. There is no official advisory group for budget cuts or other issues such as this.

Terry mentioned reaching out to the parents for their input regarding the decision to save money on the mailing of report cards.

Graduation costs a lot of money at the Patriot Center. He would prefer to have the graduation ceremony here at the school. This is another idea for cost savings.

It was suggested that he share his cost savings list with the parents, tell the parents through the parent coffees, and a survey monkey or other means.

Sharon suggests the formation of parent advisory groups to specifically address these issues.

Dan let us know that the “It’s for you” went well and very successful.

General and Guidance

Vicki Kagan: Not present.

High School – Kathe Naughton

Gearing up for SOL’s and AP/IB testing.

Middle School – Jeanne Lesko

Fairfax School board sponsored a Jan. field trip for all middle schools theatre students.

Guidance is completing the current IEP’s,

After school programs are thriving.

Robinson student government sold Valentine’s Day carnations.

The drama department’s production of “Bye Bye Birdie” was successful.

Northup Grumman is sponsoring the science fair; Jeanne would like to see them mentioned on our website.

Robinson placed third in the “It’s Academic” district championship for the second consecutive year.

Per State mandate, US History 7 will include a section on Reconstruction beginning next year.

Legislative

April 1st at 7:20pm the legislative breakfast will be held in the Recital Hall.

There are a number of issues being discussed in Richmond this year, one of which is teacher’s salaries. The issues are centered on the budget.

Funding

Kathy Weiner

The PTSA approved several funding requests online: They were as follows:

The following funding requests were presented:

1. Staff Development – Ms. Marianne Keith (Library)

\$45 to help fund attendance at a workshop called “Books and Boys: Practical Ways to Bring Books and Boys Together.....

The funding chair recommended approving the funds, Kevin Bell motioned to approve, and Sharon seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

2. Special Project – Ms. Tara Canada (HS guidance)

Request is for \$84 to pay the fee needed by a very needy student who would like to take the AP Spanish Lang. Test.

Discussion – Karen’s concern is that the money should come under the Sunshine Fund.

Kevin Bell motioned to approve it conditional on the funding coming through the Sunshine fund, Sharon seconded the motion. Therefore the Sunshine fund should be approached to pay the fee and the PTSA will not vote on this.

3. Recurring requests –

a. Girl’s State – Mr. Mitch Aydlette (HS Guidance)

Requesting more money than the budgeted line item. The amount requested is \$570 of which \$450 is budgeted. The funding chair requests the board approve to grant the additional \$120 that was not budgeted.

Our budget is already approved for \$450.

The motion was moved, and seconded, but the vote did not pass.

Suggest that the request come back and request the money under special projects.

b. Carousel – Requesting the budgeted \$500.

- c. International Festival – Requesting the budgeted \$1,000 for food and catering.
- d. ANGP – Requesting the \$1,000 budgeted for the forklift and rental truck delivery.

Reflections Report

Put the report here.

Scholarships – Bonnie Roffenbender

Not present.

Special Education – Paul Glenn

The resource fair for Special Education will be at West Springfield High School on 5/8/08. ***New Business***

The seems to be a problem with parents getting the email link for the RamGram. Barry Gorodnick is in charge of getting this out via “Keep in Touch”.

The nominating committee needs to be formed. Sharon Brown will be on the committee but will not head it, Terry Matlaga-Bell will chair the nominating committee. The Treasurer, the Secretary, the Funding chair, Ram Gardens, possibly membership, informed the group that they will not be available to do the job next year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Ricka Hanson, Recording Secretary

The minutes were:

_____ approved as submitted

_____ approved as corrected

Date: _____

