

Rutland Middle School Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Monday November 19th @7pm

Funding Meeting MINUTES

2018/19 RMS PAC Executive

President: Marie Howell

Vice-President; Angela Trush

Treasurer: Jodi Schmitke

Secretary: Michelle Liedl

COPAC Representative: Paula Morrison

Hot Lunch Coordinators: Teresa Banka & Marla McLennan

Meeting Parent/Guardian Attendees: Marie Howell, Jodi Schmitke, Paula Morrison, Vivian Evans, Misty Mischek, Janice Howell, Teresa Reid, Jamie Lowther, Michelle Berggren, Luke Campbell, Tina Given, Mellissa Ball, Sofia Simeonidis, Kaori Bhaiyan, Moreblessing Chipere.

Regrets – Michelle Liedl, Angela Trush

Administrators

Principal: Jim Laird

Vice Principal: Rob Aviani

Call to Order: 7pm.

1. Welcome, Attendance & Introductions.
2. Adoption of Agenda, any additions or deletions. – 1st Jamie Lowther, 2nd Janice Howell.
3. Adoption of October 2018 Minutes – Paula 1st, Teresa 2nd.
4. **Principal's report** - see Additional Report Administrators Report.

Thank you to all the parent volunteers.

Clarification about the access for RMS Students to use the Soccer Bubble – our school has access and is scheduled in throughout the year between RSS time block. Throughout the winter usage reduces and then will pick up in the Spring again.

5. **Correspondence** – No correspondence to report.
6. **Presidents report/New Business**
 - 6.1 COPAC Leadership Conference Saturday, November 24th.
Still able to sign up – go through COPAC Website. Free Event & Lunch included.
 - 6.2 Music Departments Grant Supporting letter.
Mrs. McDowell applied for a \$15,000 grant to help upgrade our Music Department. Instruments have not been well cared for and many are original from 1948. In very poor condition.
PAC President – Marie and Principal Mr. Laird provided supporting letters.
Mrs. McDowell will learn in February if she receives the Grant.
 - 6.3 Purdy's Christmas Chocolate – Deadline Wednesday November 28th at 70% of our goal.

6.4 COBBS Bursary – funds sent and adjustments made no mail regarding the new recipient. Marie to follow up with COBBS due to Mail Strike to ensure that they received the cheques due to Mail Strike.

6.5 RMS rebuild correspondence & updates

- Tour of RMS with Liberal Leader Andrew Wilkinson on Friday November 16th. Marie provided summary of visit.
- Meeting November 21st at School Board Office for Operations & Planning Meeting – Public meeting – the purpose of this meeting is to hear what the School District has decided what to do now with our school. Marie will speak during the Public Portion to introduce herself and the parents to the Committee. If parents can make it – please attend as it is important to demonstrate that parents care.
- Marie Meeting with Superintendent Kevin Kaardel and Eileen Treasurer/secretary on Monday November 26th to discuss how our parent group can advocate at the Ministry level more effectively. Will Report back to group.
- Norah Bowman is our Trustee for RMS and she would like to attend a meeting with our parents to discuss our concerns and how she can better advocate for our students.

7. Reports

7.1 **Hot Lunch** – Teresa reported that Little Caesars’ working well and that HL is open again for December ordering.

7.2 **COPAC** – Paula provided report on the COPAC meeting.

Update regarding COPAC Parent Conference.

COBBS presentation at COPAC meeting about their organization.

Discussed Committees’ at School District Level that can help advocate for our students – Paula will get descriptions and share with our Parent Group regarding these to help our students.

Discussed that Marie presented to COPAC our concerns about our school. Trustees Moyra and Chantelle were in attendance to hear Marie Speak as well as the Superintendent.

8. **Treasurer Report** – see report. 1st – Misty Mischek 2nd – Paula Morrison

8.1 **Funding Requests.**

Teachers that presented:

1. S. Schmidt – ELL Program. Discussed the need for our school to have more ipads for our ELL students. We have more ELL students than any other school in the district and we are expecting more students soon. ELL students are vulnerable individuals and become very isolated. Having iPads will help the students communicate and translate textbooks and their language. This makes a HUGE impact on their experience at the school.

2. C. Luthin – Foods Teacher. Requesting new Aprons and cutting boards. Both are in need for Hygiene reasons. The Aprons are 20 years plus old and falling apart. Mrs. Luthin also requesting a stacking Washer & Dryer for space saving and because the current Dryer is on its last leg and takes 3 hours to dry items.

3. A. Gagliano – Kindness Crew. Mentorship class would like t-shirts for Lunch time – this is to help students identify themselves as the Kindness Crew – build spirit and welcoming environment.

4. C. McDowell – Music Department – Reviewed her list of requests. Lots of requests as this department has been lacking investment for many years. Equipment is falling apart due to poor maintenance and care. Mrs. McDowell spoke about her vision for the Music Department and how she wants to grow the department – including a jazz band, discussed her collaboration with RSS Music teacher and SMS.

5. Rob Aviani - spoke to other requests. Outdoor Equipment and PE Equipment in desperate need to be replaced, swag bag items, Field trip for Swimming & Skating, jackets for the volunteer coaches as Thank you to them.

6. Marie Howell – spoke to remaining requests based on the request forms.

Mr. Laird & Mr. Aviani excused themselves for the discussion and decision portion of this meeting.

One further request was added to the list for music – Guitar stools – the request was accidentally placed in the quotes and Marie missed it while writing up the Funding Request List. All agreed to add this to the list.

Total Funding Request came to \$33,640.92.

Jodi Schmitke Treasurer discussed that we could spend \$21,132.25 at this meeting (\$10,000 from Gaming and \$10,000 from General approximately).

Marie and Jodi emphasized that as much as we would like to pay for everything we have to prioritize and spend our money wisely. We have to plan to bring funds forward for the next school year as well as consider there are Spring Requests for yearend events.

Fundraisers in the works are Purdy's, Hot Lunch Program, and Marie is looking into West Jet Tickets for a Spring Raffle Sale to raise further funds for our school.

Parents in attendance reviewed the Request list.

Jamie Lowther spoke and offered that her family will pay for the Kindness Crew request of \$250 for the T-Shirts for this project. Jamie discussed how this program has made a major difference in her daughter Emilie's life this year. The parent group thanked Jamie and accepted this offer.

As a Parent Group we decided:

Teachers that presented at the meeting were to be a priority.

Requests that effect ALL students are a priority (field trips, dances, breakfast club, and equipment).

As Group we deferred the following items:

1. **Foosball Tables** – Will look for alternative way to bring these to the school. Parents are concerned about the supervision of these items, and rules etc. Although the group understand it gives the students an alternative activity at lunch time especially through the winter the overall feeling was that this was not a great way to spend PAC money.
2. **Shop Class Requests** – Mr. Smith has requested these items previously. PAC has provided a significant amount of funds to this department in the last 3 years. These are BIG ticket items. We would encourage Mr. Smith to seek alternative funding for these – Grants or even a local business sponsor. Marie will discuss further with the Administrators of RMS and Mr. Smith about alternative funding.
3. **Mrs. Miles** – request for Lap Tops was incomplete – no quote provided. The PAC at present cannot afford to buy and maintain Lap Tops. The SD will be refreshing the school next year.
Dictionary/Thesauruses – Parent group overall feeling was that we like this idea of students not relying on technology. However these resources are only as good as the year they were printed. Encourage use of the Library supply as a way to teach the students the purpose of these.
4. **Mrs. McDowell** – request for 24 guitars. Deferred until Grant Funding decision. PAC in favour of helping in this area if grant declined. Will re-look at this item in the spring. PAC deferred The Clinician for the Choir & Band Retreat for now. Again PAC is willing to relook at this in spring time. Parents present all agreed these are important for the Music Program to grow.

Approved Items:

1. Field Trip – Swimming & Skating for ALL Students. \$3748.84
2. Grade 8 Rock Climbing – approved \$1000.00 towards the \$1990 requested.
3. Outdoor Equipment for School - \$469.56
4. PE Equipment - \$3636.75
5. Volunteer Coaches Jackets - \$1000
6. Swag Bag Items - \$784
7. Breakfast Club – up to \$400
8. Christmas/Winter Dance - \$450
9. Pancake Breakfast Dishes & Dishwasher - \$500
10. ELL Program iPads & Cases - \$1376.85
11. Foods Class – Aprons & Cutting Boards - \$357.55 –
PAC asked for stacking W&D from Cafeteria to be moved to Foods Room.
12. Music Department – Guitar Stools - \$254.25
13. Music Department – Humidifier & Air – up to \$664.61
14. Music Department – Bass Ampx2 - \$762.07
15. Music Department – Tuners & Pickups - \$1713.60
16. Music Department – First Performance - \$203.95
17. Music Department – 66 Festive - \$323.87

TOTAL \$17,645.90

Jodi & Marie will ensure the right funds are spent from Gaming Account based on the guidelines.

Marie reviewed items again with group. All agreed we will re-visit the deferred requests in the Spring.

Marie asked for a motion to be made to accept the spending of \$17,645.90.

Motion made by Jamie Lowther – 2nd Mellissa Ball. All in favour by show of hands.

5. Additional Items – no additional items.
6. Adjournment – Next meeting Monday, January 21st – no December Meeting.

November 2018, RMS PAC – Administrators' Report

1. Thanks to all the volunteers in the school (coaches, PAC, parents/guardians, etc.) that bring so much to the school! And thank you to you all PAC for funding support (tonight!)
2. Staffing Updates
 - Year 2 UBC Teacher Interns (Kas Brownridge, Justin Nillson, and Ellie Cashion) are finished their final practicums on Dec. 7
 - We welcome our next group, Year 1 UBC Teacher Candidates, in the new year
 - Nathan Woollard – Thomas Giroday will join us
 - Sue Miles – Kayla Powell will be joining us
 - Samara Schmidt – Tanya Fleck will join us
3. Superintendent/Trustee Learning Conversation (December 4, 9:30-11:30am)
 - A wonderful PAC committee has been meeting and learning (Marie, Paula, Teresa), and will represent our parent community in this process
 - Excited to welcome our guests, share our learning journey with them, have them get into classrooms, have table talk/discussion, and provide feedback
4. Winter Dance/Clubs
 - Winter Dance/Clubs on the afternoon of Wednesday, December 12!
 - Thanks to Carson Tonn and Nikki Zimmermann for planning, and all other staff for helping to supervise and run club activities
5. Remembrance Day Recap
 - A very powerful Remembrance Day assembly. We had amazing representation from our community and from our students
 - Thank you to Chantal Luthin, Sue Miles, Kim Dennis, Carmen McDowell, Carson Tonn, and others for organizing, and our students for wearing their uniforms
6. Report Card Reminders
 - Our first term reporting processes are going to start in a week and a half, leading up to report cards coming home in the second week of December
 - If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's achievement, progress, etc. please do not hesitate to contact your child's teachers ASAP for clarification