**PTO Board Meeting Minutes**

**February 11, 2015**

**ROE Library**

**6:00 p.m.**

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of River Oaks Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization (“PTO”) met on Wednesday, the 11th day of February, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., in the Library of River Oaks Elementary School. The following officers and members of the Board of Directors were present, thus constituting a quorum:

Kara Richardson– President

Chiarra Stratton – First VP

Regina Ibarra - VP – Public Relations

Liz Palmer - Past President

Nicole Pruitt – VP Development

Sara Bloome - Secretary

Kristen Heyburn and Amanda Greenwald - Kinder Grade Reps

Susanna Watt and Jennifer Carroll - 1st Grade Reps

Cathy Mahoney - 2nd Grade Reps

Kiko Tovar - 3rd Grade Rep

Kathryn Hung and Amy Allen - 4th Grade Rep

Laurel Agris and Elisa Donavan - 5th grade rep

Allison Rudin and Amie Canfield - Teacher Appreciation

Madhuri Chilakapati – Specialist Representative

Dolores Bustamante- Teacher Representative

Kerri Fovargue - Head of School

Also Present – Adrienne Murray - Head of Parent Spring Social

Call to Order

Kara Richardson, President of the Board, called the meeting to order.

Parent Spring Social – presented by Adrienne Murray

The event will be held at the Houston City Club, April 24. It will be a cocktail party with martini bar and make your own donut station. The exact time is to be determined. There will be some big board auction items and a raffle. The committee is looking for donations of big board items such as vacation home usage and sporting events.

Book Fair – presented by Susannah Watt

Signs are up, emails are out for the event. Goode Company BBQ donated the food. There will be a snow cone station, square dancing demonstration and a Rodeo clown. Tickets are available online. They are looking for the PA system; Fovargue informs that Ms. Stow has the system and knows how to work the system. Fovargue proposes doing the book fair in the library next year. The school is looking to redo some of the shelving in the library and this will make it a more appropriate venue next year.

Dr. Fovargue presents school events – Thanks the PTO for the teacher appreciation luncheons. HISD is doing a district wide diet competition. Reminds PTO to see ROE’s twitter account. Mentions the Roshon Thomas event for the IB program wherein the digital literacy program and choir attended and contributed to the event.

SDMC approved the updated assessments and discussed equity issues in teachers giving extra credit work. The school wide policy is for no extra credit. The policy is available on the ROE website under, “IB policy.” Advised as to conduct grades and that teachers cannot give “U” for unsatisfactory without principal approval. Also, the principal can override conduct marks.

Addresses complaints about the cafeteria behavior. The teachers have requested more supervision at lunch and more input from the administrators. This is being attended to.

Madhuri Chilakapati brings up problems with parking and dropping children off on Avalon St. There have been issues with the police officer not showing up for this detail. There were various discussions on how to ensure an officer is present. Kiko Tovar proposed that parents help with car pool. Discussion on how this was done in the past, but that there were issues with the parental help. Andy Williams is the liaison for the police officers and PTO. The PTO is looking for a PTO member to be a coordinator to ensure officers in the morning and afternoon and to expand the pool of officers on the ROE list.

The board approves paying for one additional officer 3 times a week. Liz Palmer made the motion, Madhuri Chilakapati seconds, all approve.

State of the School Address – Kara Richardson presents. Kara attended the event, along with several other board members and found it inspiring. There were no new, big initiatives proposed. Fovargue mentions a push to get more High School college counselors in the schools. HISD is providing SAT costs for all students.

First Grade Trip – Jennifer Carroll presents. The grade reps are requesting that the PTO cover new field trip expense of the bus to Moody Gardens. The PTO Approves $1,100 for this expense.

Recess – Allison Rudin questions why recess is taken away as a punishment. Teacher representative, Dolores Bustamante, suggests contacting the teacher with these concerns. Study Hall is supposed to be for students struggling with their work or those who prefer to get work done during recess, but not as a punishment.

5th Grade events – Laurel Agris presents. The 5th grade events are over budget. The Ranch trip was paid for by the school. Costs have been more than expected.

Other Business and Adjournment

There being no other business to address, a motion was raised and seconded to adjourn the meeting, which was passed unanimously.