

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY COUNCIL(RCC) MONTHLY MEETING
Thursday September 21st, 2017 6pm
Riverside Magnet School, 29 Willowbrook Dr. East Hartford, CT

The first RCC meeting was called to order by president Kristen Gordon followed by a welcome and introductions of members, staff and executive board:

Kristen Gordon, President

Tisa Rabun-Marshall, President

Elizabeth Adorno, Treasurer

Rasheda Lockett, Fundraising Chair

Jennifer Nadeau, Family Coordinator

Kara Richardson, Secretary

Bylaws Amendment Vote and Family Coordinator Chair election

President Kristen Gordon announced the addition of the position of Family Coordinator to the executive board. Gordon called for a nomination of Jennifer Nadeau to this position, Meri Robert nominated her. Sarah Miles 2nd the nomination. Majority were in favor and none opposed. Jennifer Nadeau was voted into the family coordinator executive board position for the 2017-2018 school year. The bylaws will be amended to reflect this addition.

RCC Background and Goals

President Tisa Rabun-Marshall gave the membership an overview of how the RCC was formed, including the bylaws committee process as well as the executive board election process. Secretary Kara Richardson gave an overview of the RCC goals for 2017-2018 which included: establishing and growing as a parent-led organization, obtaining non-profit status and increasing family involvement.

How to get involved

Family Coordinator Jennifer Nadeau provided information regarding Classroom parents and the duties. Upcoming events on the RCC calendar were also discussed. Sub committees for events will be formed on a per event basis and the executive board will seek volunteers from families to chair and be members of these committees. Families may also contribute with any special skills they have that may be useful for events and within our community.

Fundraising Chair Rasheda Lockett explained the “Box Tops” program to help fundraising efforts. Box Tops are accepted in all forms, with or without the accompanying paperwork. In addition to box tops, our current fundraising events will be Family night at Jump Off in Manchester on Wed. Oct 11th from 6-8pm, sales at the Goodwin College Fall Festival on Saturday Oct. 28th from 10-2pm and RMS spirit wear sales during November conference time. Other fundraising ideas suggested from families were Amazon Smile and Target Red Card. We are also open to the idea of outside sponsorship if the situation arises.

Principal/Admin Update-Q&A

Dr Singh provided information regarding coffee houses which are held monthly at RMS. Coffee houses can be a formal or informal meeting of parents and staff to have coffee and discuss varying topics. Coffee houses are from 7:45-8:30am.

Dr Singh discussed the new building renovations which will house grades 3,4, and 5, library, cafe/gym/auditorium, special education and anticipates it will be ready for the 2018-2019 school year. He also advised that RMS does perform drill for lockdown procedures.

In response to parent questions and comments, topics discussed included:

- The Pathway to middle school. Currently we are working with the state to provide a pathway for our middle school students and an update will be provided at our next meeting on October 19th.
- Sports in our schools, Dr Singh explained that most students compete on sports teams outside of school, and outdoor learning and intramurals offer great outlets for activity at RMS. Some ideas for the future may be a running club or 5th grade track and field open meets.
- Colebrook field trip which is a 4 day overnight trip for 5th graders. Price range will be in the mid \$200's per family, letters will be going home next month to help families prepare for financing.
- Holistic Health is being integrated with Coach Lily who is educating our teachers on Top Shelf, lessons about self regulation strategies, as well as health and nutrition.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday Oct. 19th, 6-7pm @ RMS-29 Willowbrook