

RMS PTO Minutes, Budget and Principals Report December 2018

Attendees: Michael Bernardi, Emily Gervasio, Laura Legg, Shanna Hampton, Julie Cappuzzo, Mary Mahakian, Jessica Bisceglia, Kathy Carvalho, Heather Rodgers, Angela Holland

Welcome: PTO President Laura Legg thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and taking the time to be there.

Teacher Rep's Report: Mary Mahakian reported that the school would be participating in a computer "coding initiative" Wednesday, December 5th. All grade levels will be involved.

Principal's Report:

1. Welcome to December: One of the busiest and exciting times of the year!

- We appreciate the parent support in helping children maintain focus during this time

2. Thank you to Student Council for coordinating the Thanksgiving Baskets for the Southbury

Food Pantry

- Project largely spearheaded by 2 of our 8th grade students
- 15 complete baskets with all the fixings were donated to the Food Bank to support families at the holidays.

3. RMS Coding – Congratulations to Mr. Curtis and participating students from Computer class

- Friday, December 7th – RMS student coders will be attending the Connecticut Cyber Robotics

- Coding Finals at the University of Bridgeport. The team qualified and finished 2nd in the State in a recent online competition
- RMS students will be participating in the annual “Hour of Code” on Wednesday, December 5th through code.org

4. RMS is sponsoring a Toy Drive for the Holidays

- Please consider supporting the Needy Fund with an unwrapped toy
- Legos, cars/trucks, board games, picture books, chapter books, art supplies, school supplies, sports equipment, sports bags, blankets, and gift cards
- Gifts should be new and unwrapped.
- Collection from December 3rd – December 10th

5. 6th Grade Social and 7th/8th Grade Dance, Friday, November 30th

- Well attended with a winter theme

6. Congratulations again to Mr. SanAngelo

- Superintendent Smith and I will be joining Mr. SanAngelo (and all other District Level Teachers of the Year) at the State Teacher of the Year Reception tomorrow evening at the Bushnell in Hartford.

7. Teacher Grants: Thank you for the generosity of our PTO

- Each year, our teachers identify classroom items and technology to enrich instruction for students. A variety of teacher grants were received and reviewed with the PTO executive board and a decision will be shared at an upcoming meeting.

- Thank you to the PTO for continuing to support this initiative and providing countless resources to support student learning beyond what would be possible through our annual school budget

Important Dates- Upcoming Events

- Early Release PD Day for Teachers Friday, December 7th
- Mid-Point of Quarter 2 is Monday, December 10th
- 7th and 8th Grade Winter Concert (scheduled for Tuesday, December 11th)
- 6th Grade and Small Ensemble Concert (scheduled for Wednesday, January 16th)

Vice Principal's Report: Emily Gervasio reported that the school Climate Committee will be continuing the ongoing efforts to promote positive behaviors and interactions within the school. Staff starting a raffle for students who are observed to be demonstrating positive behaviors. PTO working cooperatively with Climate Committee to collect gift cards from local businesses to be given out as raffle prizes. Mrs. Gervasio and the Climate Committee members are all very appreciative of the support and generosity of RMS families. 20 gift cards are being donated already!

Secretary's Report: none at this time

Treasurer's report: See below and click on blue button for financials. Questions? Please contact Jen Nikolich at jjnikolich@aol.com

Committee Reports:

Teacher Grants: Laura Legg reported that teacher grants process has begun and the paperwork has been submitted. Anyone interested in helping with this committee please contact Laura Legg.

Direct Donation Drive: Donations currently approximately \$400 under goal of \$6000. More reminders will be sent out and noted that no donation is too small. This donation funds the teacher grants.

Coupon Books: Coupon Books fundraiser was a great success this year. To date, over 90 books were sold bringing in over \$1,100 in profit.

Cooking Exchange for Staff: Set for Tuesday, December 18th. Sign up genius to go out this week. Store or bakery bought cookies are welcomed! It was mentioned that many people may be baking earlier - and noted that pre-frozen cookies are very much appreciated as well! This is an annual staff favorite!

Winter Fundraiser: Laura Legg reported that RMS is planning an additional fundraiser this year. Partnering with Villarina's and details to follow later this winter.

Amazon Smile : Reminder to use for holiday shopping !

Upcoming Dates:

12/7 Early Release Day

12/10 Midpoint of second marking period

12/11 - 7th and 8th grade winter concert (7 pm)

12/24-1/1 Winter recess

1/8 RMS PTO meeting - 9:30 am at RMS