

**Redmond Junior High PTSA
Unit 2.8.80
Special General Membership Meeting
November 17, 2009**

Call to Order: President Lisa Schildt called the meeting to order at 7:03pm in the Redmond Junior High library. The required quorum was present.

Minutes: Minutes from the October 27th meeting will be presented at the Jan. 26, 2010, meeting for approval.

President's Comments:

Election of Co-Vice President: Lisa introduced MaAn Shridhar as nominee to for Co-Vice President to fill the vacancy resulting from Sheri Pardi's resignation. Nominations for co-vice president were open to the floor, with no other nominations. Sheri Pardi moved to accept the nomination of MaAn Shridhar, and to elect her as Co-Vice President. Carrie Casanas seconded the motion. MaAn was unanimously approved at the new Co-Vice President. unanimously.

Levy Phone Survey Volunteers: Lisa discussed the need for volunteers to make phone calls to survey registered voters regarding their support for the February levies and bond vote. The Citizens Levy Committee requested each school PTA/PTSA recruit fifteen volunteers. To date, RJH PTSA has three volunteers.

Carrie Casanas commented that the levies require a 50% +1 approval to pass, and the bond for construction must pass by 60% +1. The bond monies impact construction needed through 2014.

After School Drama Program:

Lisa opened the discussion about PTSA sponsoring an after school theater arts program at RJH by emphasizing the positive contributions such a program can make to the RJH students and community. Lisa briefly reviewed the financial outcome of past LWSU school drama productions, and the most recent large RJH production funded by ASB which lost \$5,981.00. She stated that we need to make sure that we are being fiscally responsible when making a decision whether or not to sponsor a program at RJH. Lisa reviewed some of the schedule conflicts and facilities availability restrictions for a spring 2010 production, including conflicts with season 3 and 4 athletics, limitations on available rehearsal space, and limited availability of the Redmond High School Performing Arts Center. Lisa then introduced Vicki Krum to present a proposal for PTSA sponsoring a theater arts program in spring 2010.

Vicki initially presented the proposed program budget and explained that it was prepared with conservative expectations for income and broad expectations for expenses. She explained the goal to get this program started in a manner that is sustainable over subsequent years. She presented a budget based on what RJH has done in the past, and on what other schools in the area have done. Estimated expenses will be approximately \$13,000 and estimated income approximately \$14,000.

Because the current PTSA budget does not include funding for this program, up front costs will be funded through student participation fees for actors of \$100 each and \$25 for students wishing to be on the technical production team. Costs for director's fee, music director and the PAC will be due after the performances and will be paid through ticket sales.

Discussion included the following points:

- Adam Barr asked if there was opportunity to refund part of the participation fee if the performance made money. Vicky replied that additional monies would most likely be channeled to subsequent years productions as seed money.
- Sharlee Hewitt asked if scholarships would be available. Vicki replied that the budget currently provides for a few scholarships, with potential further scholarship assistance from Redmond Drama Boosters.
- Adam Barr asked if the other schools were doing participation fees. Laura Welton commented that RJH previously had had \$50 fee plus \$50 costume fee.
- Lisa pointed out that in the past the ASB funded the program, and were able to apply a lower fee.

Vicki continued with a review of the planned calendar, starting with a parent meeting in mid-January. Because this would be a PTSA event, insurance requires that we have at least 2 PTA members at every rehearsal. Students would be rehearsing five days a week starting March 21st with performances on Friday, April 23rd, and Saturday, April 24th.

At the board meeting, it was asked that we have a go/no-go decision by the 15th of January. This decision will be based on having 35 students signed up and deposit paid.

Further discussion included several questions, with Vicki's replies:

Question: If you haven't auditioned/cast yet, how can you ask for money?

Answer: Everyone who is interested will be involved. They will audition for roles, but everyone is guaranteed a part on stage (if they want it). We are also offering a production team, which is for students that don't want to be in stage. This is at a lower fee.

Question: Is there a maximum number of students?

Answer: Right now we are budgeting for 50 students. The script we are looking at can allow for up to 60 students. We have had up to 85 students be interested in these performances. We are thinking that the money will bring the numbers down. If the role of the technical crew is also highlighted, we may also have more non-stage enrollment.

Carrie Cassanas brought up having 2 PTSA members at each event. At the parent meeting, there will be mandatory participation on the part of the parents, and we will also need to have background checks. Lisa wanted to point out that the two PTSA members is not an arbitrary number, but is required by our insurance.

Vicky Broback (Redmond Drama Boosters) added that for the Evergreen Junior High production, there was a mandatory 5 hours parent volunteer time per student.

Vicki presented the list of ten sub-committees needed for the production, and invited attendees to sign up for committee leadership positions. The sub-committee leaders will supervise volunteers for their committee.

She emphasized that we need to make sure that we have enough supervision during the rehearsals to make sure that the students are doing what they are supposed to be doing.

Vicki stated that PTSA will progress through a series of steps toward the production. First, RJH PTSA must agree to sponsor the program. Secondly, we need to decide on the Director and the script. Vicki has been in conversations with people about the script and the director. Lisa commented that we have talked with different people to come up with the current proposal.

Sheri Pardi moved that RJH PTSA sponsor the Redmond Junior High Drama Program and to add a line-item to the RJH PTSA budget for income and expenses to support the Redmond Junior High Drama Program. Adam Barr seconded. The motion was approved.

Sheri Pardi moved that a PTSA committee be formed to run the drama program, contingent upon sufficient students signing up and making a deposit toward their participation fee. Adam Barr seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Vicki will meet with the sub-committee heads to discuss next steps.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

Submitted by
Heather Brown
Secretary, RJH PTSA 2009 -2010