

**DRAFT – Meeting Minutes to be approved at the October 19, 2015 PTAC Meeting**

**Robbinsdale Middle School PTAC Meeting Minutes**

September 21, 2015

**Attendees:** Jen Leonardson, Rachel Johnson, Julie Kula, Joy Bartness, Julie Pinomaki, Jewel Barsaloux, Toni Herbst, Anita Stenson, Andrea Lundahl, Shannon Black, Jen Holtgrewe, Melissa Hove, Matt Smith, Christina Skoglund, Stephanie Jacobson, Ryan McLagan, Scott Allen, Michael Peterson, Beth Benedict, Teresa Bertossi, Marna Gisvold, Asha Awed, Aileen White, Dr. Nolan

President Joy Bartness opened the meeting and asked for introductions from all attendees.

Dr. Nolan reported that the school year is off to a great start. Transition to Block Schedule has been seamless. 90% of students at RMS are now in a foreign language class. Afterschool options have been expanded. RMS will have a fall play this year. He stressed that he would like parent input in order to have a true partnership.

Parents brought forward the following concerns:

- With math classes meeting only 1-2x/week, where should students get help with homework? Targeted services will begin in next few weeks for students who are falling behind. Teachers will identify students who need help, but parents may also request these services for their children. Students from Cooper High School will also be providing tutoring at RMS this year
- How do the kids like the Block Schedule? Less transitions. Less social time
- What is the difference between MCA and MAP? There will be less time spent taking tests this year.
- What programs exist to help kids gain social skills? Afterschool programs are a great way to meet students.
- Why are kids in gym before school each day? It allows the staff to monitor activity in the hallways and reduces conflicts before school. Kids seem calmer. Reduces tardiness.
- What can be done to improve safety for students crossing Regent Ave/37<sup>th</sup> Ave and 36<sup>th</sup> Ave? We need dedicated crosswalks at 37<sup>th</sup> Ave, a stoplight at Regent/36<sup>th</sup> Ave, and a sidewalk on the driveway that slopes down to the parking lot on the east side of RMS. Very dangerous conditions for students who walk—especially in winter!

Jen Holtgrewe and Katy Nelson gave STEAM/IB updates. Volunteers will be needed to assist with afterschool programs which include many new programs. See RMS website for details. Contact Katy Nelson ([katy\\_nelson@rdale.org](mailto:katy_nelson@rdale.org) or 763-504-4885) or Jen Holtgrewe ([jennifer\\_holtgrewe@rdale.org](mailto:jennifer_holtgrewe@rdale.org) or 763-504-4856) for more information or questions.

Our Fall Fundraiser will begin on October 2. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and will include magazine, cookie dough, and a Happenings app (which replaces the old Happenings Book). Volunteers are needed to assist with collecting orders at school on October 14. Contact Katy Nelson (see above).

Treasurer Julie Kula described this year's budget in detail. \$1000 will be given to each grade to be distributed by the teachers.

Fundraising Chairs Rachel Johnson and Jen Leonardson gave an update about upcoming fundraisers including **Buffalo Wild Wings on September 30. Remember: You must bring the yellow ticket** (attached to these minutes or on the RMS Facebook page) in order for us to get the 10% donation. Unfortunately, Rachel and Jen will both be resigning from the PTAC because their children are no longer attending RMS. We are very grateful for their hardwork and enthusiasm on the PTAC. New volunteers for this position are needed. Please contact Joy Bartness at [joy.bartness@gmail.com](mailto:joy.bartness@gmail.com)

Everyone was invited to fill out the How Can PTAC Help worksheet? See attached. Email your response to [rmsptac@gmail.com](mailto:rmsptac@gmail.com)

Our next PTAC Meeting will be on Monday, October 19 at 6pm in the RMS Choir Room. Hope to see you there!

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Meeting minutes submitted by Julie Pinomaki, PTAC Secretary

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(Present this ticket to your server on the date & time listed below)

### **RMS PTAC**

September 30, 2015 • 4:00 PM  
5590 West Broadway Crystal Gallery Mall • Crystal, MN • 763-531-2356

**ADMIT ONE**

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