

Call to Order

PTO President Rebecca Young called the meeting to order at 12:02pm.

Welcome & Introductions

1. Rebecca introduced herself and welcomed parents and staff members to the sixth PTO meeting of the 2016-2017 school year.
2. PTO Board Members Nicole Fowler (Treasurer), Erin Ferris (Secretary), Kendra Graf (Communications VP), and Kristin Howell (Treasurer-Elect) introduced themselves. Becca Johnson (Vice President) was unable to attend.

Action/Discussion Items

1. President's Report – Rebecca Young

- a. See Old/New Business

2. Principal's Report – Robyn Jones

- a. The school-wide "Celebrate Texas" enrichment day (and Cowboy Day for kindergarten) will take place on Friday, March 10th.
- b. Spring break begins Monday, March 13th and runs through Friday, March 17th.
- c. The track resurfacing and sidewalk extension are complete, and the school will get a new roof this summer.
- d. Keep reading the weekly "Jonesy News" emails for important information about upcoming school events.

3. Teacher's Report – Keri Foley

- a. Teacher Representative Andrea McMurray had to miss the meeting so there was no report.

4. Treasurer's Report – Kristin Howell

- a. Nicole provided those in attendance with the February Monthly Statement and the Year-to-Date Statement updated as of February 28th. These documents are also available on the PTO website.
- b. Of note:
 - i. Completed/closed out line items on the Year-to-Date Statement have been shaded to give members a better understanding of where the budget stands.
 - ii. Due to a change in management (a transition from Corporate to Franchise), PTO has not yet received the nearly \$500 raised during the McDonald's spirit night. Efforts to contact corporate and collect the money have been fruitless thus far; Mrs. Jones will take this over on behalf of PTO.
 - iii. In CSISD, it is customary and expected for existing PTOs to make start-up donations to new school PTOs. Our PTO will make a donation to the Pecan Trail PTO, though an amount has yet to be determined, and budget for this kind of donation for the next two years (to support the future third middle school and 10th elementary school).
- c. As always, Nicole and Kristin are always available to answer questions or discuss budgetary concerns.

5. Secretary's Report – Erin Ferris

- b. Minutes are taken at every PTO meeting and will be posted on the RP PTO website within one week of the meeting. Questions about the minutes can be emailed to rockprairieinfo@gmail.com.
- c. A motion to approve the minutes from the February meeting was made by Rebecca, seconded by Kristin, and approved.

6. Communication VP's Report – Kendra Graf

- a. Committee Chairs should email Kendra (Kendra_graf@yahoo.com) as soon as information about their events (dates, times, volunteer needs, etc.) is available so she can plan how to fit that information into upcoming weekly emails, nine-week newsletters, and the broader social media communications plan. To have an event included in a Sunday weekly email, the information needs to be in Kendra's hands by Friday morning.

Old/New Business

1. Fundraising – Erin Ferris/Rebecca Young

- a. **Spellathon** pledge forms and money were due to teachers by March 6th, however stragglers are still coming in. Volunteers will reconcile pledges and count money at 7:45am on Wednesday, March 8th in the cafeteria; please join us if you'd like to help. Student and teacher prizes will be awarded on March 10th.
- b. In an attempt to better distribute the fundraising workload, Rebecca would like to set up a new **Fundraising Committee** that would include a representative from each grade level. These parents, along with any others who would like to join them, would collectively coordinate Boosterthon, the fall product fundraiser, and the spring Spellathon fundraiser. This structure would disperse the work among a larger number of volunteers, and also create an opportunity for newer-to-the-committee parents to learn from those who have worked on the fundraisers previously. Because she has coordinated Boosterthon for the last four years, Melissa Melnyk would "mentor" the committee during the 2017 Boosterthon event. Parents should talk to or email Rebecca with questions about or if interested in this opportunity!

2. Board/Chair Positions Needed – Rebecca Young

- a. After spring break Rebecca will begin contacting current chairs to determine who would like to remain in their position for the 2017-2018 school year. Once this has been determined, recruitment will begin for open positions. Watch for position descriptions on Facebook and in the weekly emails at the end of March or beginning of April.

3. Playground Updates – see Principal's Report

4. Buddy Benches – Rebecca Young

- a. PTO plans to purchase two Buddy Benches for the playground. Designed by a student who wanted all kids to have someone to play at recess, Buddy Benches encourage kids without a playmate to take a seat and kids who see someone sitting on the bench to invite them play.
- b. The Buddy Benches will come with lessons on kindness and empathy that can be taught by Ms. Chamberlain and teachers at the beginning of the year, and then reiterated and built on by teachers as the year goes on.

5. Butterfly Garden – Jessica Matthews

- a. Our next service day will be held the morning of April 22nd, exact time TBD. There are lots of weeds to pull, seeds to plant, and projects to take on so keep that morning free and plan to join us!

6. STEM Night/Book Fair

- a. We had a great turnout for STEM Night and the evening book fair. Thank you for joining us and to those who volunteered, thank you for giving your time!

7. Staff Appreciation – Jess Matthews

- a. March's appreciation event will be a parent participation soup, salad, sandwich, and sweets luncheon on Wednesday, March 8th.

8. Citywide PTO Meeting Assistance – Rebecca Young

- a. The next Citywide PTO Meeting will be held at Rock Prairie on March 22nd at 12:00pm. Texas Roadhouse will cater lunch and Becca Johnson will provide dessert, but we will need help setting up, hosting, serving, and cleaning up. We will begin at 11am; email Rebecca at reblynnyoung@gmail.com if you're available and would like to help.

9. Cvpress Grove Intermediate PTO Assistance – Rebecca Young

- a. Cypress Grove Intermediate School's PTO board members were all rezoned for Pecan Trail. If you have a RP 4th grader headed to Cypress Grove for the 2017-2018 school year, please consider getting involved with their PTO.

10. Yearbooks – Rebecca Young

- a. Yearbooks have been ordered. If you did not order a yearbook but have decided that you/your child would like one, please email Rebecca at reblynnyoung@gmail.com as soon as possible to let her know.

11. Food Drive – Rebecca Young

- a. The CSISD city-wide food drive will be held in April. More information to come.

Other

1. The school calendar for 2017-2018 is available on the CSISD website:
http://www.csisd.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=165195&type=d&pREC_ID=570019.
2. PTO scholarship applications (for graduating seniors who attended RP for at least two years) are available on the Education Foundation website and are due March 29th:
<http://givetokids.csisd.org/apps/pages/SeniorScholarships>.
3. Don't forget to register your Kroger card for **Kroger Rewards!** (Visit www.kroger.com, click on "Community", and then select "Community Rewards".)
4. **Upcoming PTO meetings:**
 - a. Tuesday, April 4th, 6:00pm in the cafeteria
 - b. Tuesday, May 2nd, 12:00pm in the library
5. www.rockprairiepto.org
6. rockprairieinfo@gmail.com
7. www.facebook.com/rockprairiepto
8. The meeting in its entirety can be seen here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=57xCcGAOBGQ&feature=share>

Adjourn

PTO President Rebecca Young adjourned the meeting at 12:27pm.

Submitted by Erin Ferris on March 8, 2017.