

Call to Order

PTO President Rebecca Young called the meeting to order at 6:06pm.

Welcome & Introductions

1. Rebecca introduced herself and welcomed parents and staff members to the seventh PTO meeting of the 2016-2017 school year.
2. PTO Board Members Becca Johnson (Vice President), Nicole Fowler (Treasurer), and Erin Ferris (Secretary) introduced themselves. Kendra Graf (Communications VP) 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. On Monday afternoon, a first-grade student and a vehicle collided near the intersection of Edelweiss and Welsh. The student was taken to the hospital where he was treated for a broken and wounded leg, but he had no additional injuries and should fully recover. On Tuesday morning the announcements included an update on the student's status – many other children were in the vicinity when the accident took place and were worried – and later in the day, teachers gave mini lessons on street safety in their classrooms.
 - i. No one was at fault in this scenario – it was truly an accident – and any questions about this particular incident and/or pick-up, drop-off, walker protocols, etc. should be directed to Mrs. Jones.
- b. On a related note, Rock Prairie administrators, teachers, and staff members do their best to make sure students arrive home safely, but the reality of the situation is that there are simply not enough team members to supervise students once they leave the school building and fan out into the neighborhoods. As a community we can help by lending a hand when kids need help crossing the street, paying attention to the traffic around us, documenting what we witness (unsafe drivers, unsafe intersections, etc.), and communicating these situations and conditions to the CSPD and the City of College Station.
- c. Mrs. Jones asked the City to remove the green metal fitness bars from the playground.
- d. Keep reading the weekly "Jonesy News" emails for important information about upcoming school events.

3. Teacher's Report – Andrea McMurray

- a. Mrs. McMurray reiterated that safety is a tremendously important part of the teachers' jobs and they take that responsibility seriously.
- b. Only seven weeks of school remain, and teachers are focused on helping students combine everything they have learned – academic knowledge, public speaking skills, writing skills, organization skills – for projects and presentations and in preparation for moving on to the next grade.
- c. The VIPS Luncheon will take place on Wednesday, April 19th (time TBD) and everyone who has volunteered in any capacity during the school year is invited to attend. Formal invitations to come.

4. Treasurer's Report – Nicole Fowler

- a. Nicole shared the March Monthly Statement and the Year-to-Date Statement updated as of March 31st. 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 a better understanding of where the budget stands.

- ii. Spellathon met and slightly exceeded budget.
 - iii. It appears that PTO will once again be in a position to provide the school with an end-of-the-year gift from surplus funds. (Past surplus fund gifts have included the stage curtain, the auditorium/cafeteria sound system, and the library furniture.) The Board will be working throughout the next month to determine the exact amount available and how to best support the school with this gift.
 - 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 March meeting was made by Rebecca, seconded by Becca, 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/Monday weekly email, the information needs to be in Kendra's hands by Friday.

Old/New Business

1. Fundraising – Erin Ferris/Rebecca Young

- a. While **Spellathon** met and slightly exceeded budget, we did not see the level of participation we had hoped for this year. There is room to grow this fundraiser, and the Board will work with the administration and Fundraising Committee to determine how to best make that happen next year.
- 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. Planning for the 2017-2018 year will begin in the next few weeks; parents can contact Rebecca with questions about or if interested in this opportunity, or if they have ideas on possible fundraisers, companies with which PTO can partner, and/or spirit night venues.

2. Board/Chair Positions Needed – Rebecca Young

- a. The proposed Board for the 2017-2018 school year is as follows: Rebecca Young (President) and Erin Ferris (Secretary) would remain in their positions, Kendra Graf (Communications VP) would move to the Vice President position, Kristin Howell (Treasurer-Elect) would step into the Treasurer position, and Jessica Ziegler would join the board as Communications VP. Nicole Fowler and Becca Johnson will step down after many years of generously serving on the Board. Thank you, Nicole and Becca!
- b. Committee Chair positions for the 2017-2018 school year are still in flux. Current Committee Chairs – if you have not already responded to Rebecca's email about next year, please do so immediately. Parents interested in learning more about Committee Chair positions and/or serving as a Committee Chair should contact Rebecca as soon as possible. We would love to have all interested parents join our team in whatever capacity best suits!

3. Food Drive – Rebecca Young

- a. The citywide food drive will take place from April 24th to 28th. Nonperishable food items and personal care products as well as cash will be accepted throughout the week. Student Council members will be out front before school to collect items so that parents do not need to get out of their vehicles to drop off donations.

4. Butterfly Garden – Jessica Matthews

- a. Our next service day will be held the morning of April 22nd, tentatively from 9:30am to 10:30am. Volunteers – students, parents, and siblings are welcome and encouraged to attend – will plant flowers in the beds at the front of the butterfly garden. There are a couple of related building projects that need to be completed, so please let PTO if you or someone in your family is handy in this way.

5. Book Fair – Rebecca Young

- a. Thank you to everyone who volunteered during the spring book fair. We had a great turnout on STEM Night, and appreciate everyone's support.

6. PTO Parent Survey – Rebecca Young

- a. As PTO begins planning for the 2017-2018 school year, a survey asking for parent input will be distributed. PTO would like to know what kind of events parents want to see at school, where parents would like to have spirit nights, how PTO can better connect with parents and families, etc. so that each year can be better than the last. Please watch for this survey – email, Facebook, the Jonesy News – and fill it out when the time comes. Thank you!

7. Staff Appreciation – Becca Johnson

- a. Thank you to everyone who participated in the March Soups, Salads, Sandwiches, and Sweets teacher appreciation luncheon. In April, BJ's will donate lunch for our teachers, and in May, PTO will coordinate small daily goodies during National Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week (May 1st – 5th). More information about Teacher Appreciation Week will be sent home in student folders later in April.

8. Cypress Grove Intermediate PTO Assistance – Rebecca Young

- a. Many of Cypress Grove Intermediate School's PTO board members, committee chairs, and members were 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.

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. Don't forget to register your Kroger card for **Kroger Rewards!** (Visit www.kroger.com, click on "Community", and then select "Community Rewards".)
3. **Upcoming PTO meetings:**
 - a. Tuesday, May 2nd, 12:00pm in the library
4. www.rockprairiepto.org
5. rockprairieinfo@gmail.com
6. www.facebook.com/rockprairiepto
7. The meeting in its entirety can be seen here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EAKjOrGTMEE&feature=youtu.be>

Adjourn

PTO President Rebecca Young adjourned the meeting at 6:44pm.

Submitted by Erin Ferris on April 7th, 2017.