

Call to Order

PTO President Rebecca Young called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm.

Welcome & Introductions

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

Action/Discussion Items

1. President's Report – Rebecca Young

a. Library Furniture

- i. As many in attendance noticed, the new library furniture has been removed. The products delivered this fall did not match what PTO ordered last spring, so the company removed that furniture and is working as quickly as possible to fulfill our order correctly. Thankfully, students have not been negatively affected by the absence of furniture – most are enjoying the flexible learning space – and the open room has allowed for an optional teacher yoga class to take place!

b. PTO Coffee Breaks

- i. Rebecca plans organize a regular (perhaps monthly) PTO coffee get-together. These gatherings would take place at local coffee shops, be open to all RP parents, and allow for fellowship and community building. More information to come!

c. Books, Burgers, & Bingo

- i. In conjunction with Book Fair (see below for more information), RP will host “Books, Burgers, & Bingo” on Wednesday, October 12th from 5pm – 7pm.
- ii. Students and their family members can shop for books, play pirate bingo for prizes, and dine on pulled pork, hamburger, and hotdog meals catered by Texas Roadhouse.
 1. Order forms for the catered meals went home in students’ folders last week. PTO would greatly appreciate it if parents who know they will attend would send their order forms in – along with cash or check – before the event. There will be some extra meals available for purchase that night, but making sure we have enough food will be much easier if order forms are returned ahead of time.
 2. RP does not have a Grandparents Day or Luncheon, so grandparents are welcome and encouraged to attend this event!

2. Principal's Report – Robyn Jones

- a. Mrs. Jones thanked everyone who has helped school run smoothly these first six weeks! From getting students to school and picking students up on time (the school day starts five minutes earlier and ends five minutes later this year) to lending a hand on the PTO butterfly garden service day, the support is appreciated.
- b. Mrs. Jones also provided an update on the playground track. The City of CS has approved the next phase of the city park renovations, which will include resurfacing the playground track. No timeline is available yet, but Mrs. Jones will share more as she is informed.

3. Teacher's Report – Andrea McMurray

- a. As of the 7th week of school, students are settling in nicely. Field trips and class parties are coming up, and parent volunteers will be needed for these events. If parents haven't yet filled out the online volunteer application (required in order to volunteer at school and/or

with students) they can do so by visiting <https://csisd.tedk12.com/hire/ViewJob.aspx?JobID=745> (click on “apply for this position” on the right-hand side of the page).

b. Teachers and students had a great time participating in Boosterthon!

4. Treasurer’s Report – Nicole Fowler

a. Nicole provided those in attendance with the Year-at-a-Glance and Monthly Statements, both updated as of 09.30.16. These documents are also available on the PTO website. Two incomes of note:

i. CFA Spirit Night - \$665.89

ii. Kroger Rewards - \$763.10

b. As always, Nicole is always available to answer questions or discuss budgetary concerns.

5. Secretary’s Report – Erin Ferris

a. 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.

b. A motion to approve the minutes from the September meeting was made by Nicole, seconded by Erin, 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/Boosterthon Update – Melissa Melnyk

a. This was the fourth year for Boosterthon at RP, but the first time RP had arranged with Boosterthon to have their staff members run all of the day-to-day activities. (In previous years, Boosterthon staff members ran the kick-off and fun run, but PTO members, parent volunteers, and staff members coordinated all of the activities - character lessons, prizes, reports, etc. - on the eight days in between.) The Boosterthon team did a great job engaging the students during the character lessons and motivating the students with regard to their physical fitness and fundraising.

b. Boosterthon is historically one RP’s best fundraisers, and it allows all students, regardless of physical ability and regardless of the ability to fundraise, to participate.

c. For the first time, the 4th graders - many of whom had participated in Boosterthon multiple times before - were given the opportunity to earn a color run by reaching their fundraising goal. They worked incredibly hard and loved their reward!

d. School-wide, we met our 50 state challenge (47 states plus nine countries, each of which counted as a state) as well as our \$23,000 fundraising goal, which is particularly impressive given that we had fewer students on campus this year. We brought in \$11 more per lap than last year and 61% of our students participated in the fundraising component.

2. Butterfly Garden – Jessica Mathews

a. Thank you to everyone who came out for our first Butterfly Garden service day! We had a great turnout, the kids painted lots of garden rocks, and the majority of the physical labor was completed!

b. Jessica is working with Craig Wilson at TAMU regarding a possible spring service day; more information to come.

c. 30 caterpillars from Jessica’s garden will be released in the RP garden soon!

3. Book Fair – Jessica Thomas

- a. Our fall Book Fair will take place the week of October 10th – 14th (preview day October 7th). Browse or shop in the library during the following hours:
 - i. Friday, October 7th, 8am – 3:30pm
 - ii. Monday, October 10th, 8am – 11am
 - iii. Tuesday, October 11th, 8am – 3:30pm
 - iv. Wednesday, October 12th, 8am – 7pm
 - v. Thursday, October 13th, 8am – 3:30pm
 - vi. Friday, October 14th, 8am – 1pm
- b. There is no school on Monday, October 10th and Tuesday, October 11th. Please do not send unattended children to the Book Fair while meeting with teachers on those days.
- c. A link to the online sign-up (lots of volunteer shifts are still available) was included in the weekly emails and posted to the PTO Facebook page. Please consider lending a hand, even for just a couple of hours!

4. Spirit Nights – Rebecca Young

- a. Our second spirit night of the year will be held at the Rock Prairie McDonald's on Tuesday, October 18th from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. A link to the online volunteer sign-up will be included in an upcoming weekly email and will be posted to the PTO Facebook page.

2. Staff Appreciation – Rachael Richmond

- a. Thank you to everyone who helped with Sonic Drink Day in September!
- b. On October 19th the teachers will receive a catered lunch from Olive Garden, and on November 22nd we will host our annual Goodies of Gratitude teacher appreciation event. We will need 85 whole desserts to share with our teachers that day, so if you like to bake, watch for a link to the volunteer sign-up sheet in an upcoming weekly email and on the PTO Facebook page.

3. Dinosaur George/Donuts and Dinosaurs – Rebecca Young

- a. This year December's "Pancakes and PJs" will be replaced by "Donuts and Dinosaurs" in October, when Dinosaur George will set up a natural history museum in our gym. On October 29th the museum will be open to Rock Prairie families from 9am – 11am. PTO – with the help of a TAMU student service group – will serve donuts, fruit, milk, juice, and coffee and provide a fall photo booth. Everyone is still welcome to come in pajamas!

Other

1. Don't forget to register your Kroger card for **Kroger Rewards!** (Visit www.kroger.com, click on "Community", and then select "Community Rewards".)
2. New **PTO shirts** will be coming this fall!
3. **PTO needs:**
 - a. For 2016-2017: Fundraising Chair/Co-Chairs
 - b. For 2017-2018: Sponsorship Chair/Co-Chairs
4. **Upcoming PTO meetings:**
 - a. Tuesday, November 1st, 6:00pm in the cafeteria
 - b. Tuesday, December 6th, 12:00pm in the library
 - c. Tuesday, February 7th, 6:00pm in the cafeteria
 - d. Tuesday, March 7th, 12:00pm in the library
 - e. Tuesday, April 4th, 6:00pm in the cafeteria
 - f. Tuesday, May 2nd, 12:00pm in the library
5. **School-wide party dates:**
 - a. Friday, October 28th
 - b. Tuesday, December 20th
 - c. Friday, February 14th
6. www.rockprairiepto.org
7. rockprairieinfo@gmail.com

8. www.facebook.com/rockprairiepto
9. The meeting in its entirety can be seen here:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCga3W3kTvvDRuvWZHyUwPxQ>

Adjourn

PTO President Rebecca Young adjourned the meeting at 12:28pm.

Submitted by Erin Ferris on October 5th, 2016.