

# MINUTES

## Roosevelt Middle School PTSA Minutes

*Date | Time* 11/09/2021 9:00 am *Meeting called to order by* Donna Guske

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### In Attendance

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Principal: Perla Chavez-Fritz-Principal, Assistant Principal: Mr. Barrientos, , PTSA President: Donna Guske, Vice-President: Norma Hemaidan, Treasurer: Dave Cole, Secretary: Patricia Medina-Toyofuku, Membership Chair: Laurie Salcedo, Fundraising Chair: Dana Higuera-Reyes (absent), Parliamentarian Chair: Open

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### Approval of Minutes and other agenda items

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- Donna motioned to do the Flag salute and Pledge of Allegiance
- Donna postponed approval of our last two meetings' minutes, until our next meeting in February 2022. Since those minutes have not yet been presented to our committee (by Donna).
- Norma was asked by Donna to give a summary report on topics to be raised from yesterday's executive board meeting
- No summary report was given by Norma on yesterday's board meeting, but she had a question about why we must change the titles of the positions, and why are they due?
- Dave answered that bylaws needed to be submitted and when they come back, new issues will be discussed.

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### Finances

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Treasurer's Report: (Please refer to Dave's detailed earlier email with his two-page report)

**Pending business items:**

- Dave presented the results of last **Mid-year** and **Year-end** audits for 2019-2020. Both audits came back from Grace as approved, with the only recommendation on both audits to improve on paper trailing on all transactions.
- Motion was made by Dave to approve both audits Norma 2<sup>nd</sup> it.

**Current business items:**

- Starting balance: \$3048.65
- Two deposits:
- Shakeys fundraiser check: \$227.84
- Two new memberships fees: \$20.00
- Wrote check 1081- PTA's software renewal - \$99.00
- Wrote check 1082 - to Donna for reflections - \$50.00

- Ending balance: \$3147.43
- Dave moved motion to approve checks, Donna made 1<sup>st</sup> motion, Laurie 2<sup>nd</sup> it. Motion was carried.

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## Guest Speakers

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### Speakers:

- Laura Orfalian, GUSD Student Service Department, Mental Health Therapist,
  - She's at Roosevelt 4 times/wk. helps students who need mental or emotional support, students are referred via Counselors, teachers or admin.
- Katherine, GUSD's Mental Health Intern

### Topics covered: "Meeting Your Needs"

- Checking your battery
- creating boundaries
- practicing self-care.
- how are you currently feeling?
- What is stress?
- Social-emotional wellbeing
- Types of stress
- How to manage stress
- Positive coping strategies

### Parent's Q&A:

- **Q:** How do you choose the students that need mental health help?
- **A:** Students are usually referred for assistance in mental health by Counselors, Teachers or Admin (principal).
- **Q:** When do counselors talk to students about mental health?
- **A:** Counselors are mainly academic advisors; so, they don't specifically focus on students' mental health, but if a student comes to their counselor asking for help, the counselor will make a referral to Mrs Orfalian our Mental Health Therapist
- **A:** If a teacher has a concern via observation about a specific student's mental health, she will refer him/her to the main office, then the principal would call the student to her office to see how she could best offer some help to the student.
- **Q:** If a parent has a shy student that won't ask for help on his own, but she feels her student needs mental help, what can the parent do to get help?
- **A:** The first step is for the parent to either call or email the student's designated counselor, the counselor will then speak to the student and find out the student's concerns, the counselor will follow up with a referral for the school's mental therapist.
- **A:** In order to further assist the students, some teachers are doing breathing practices in their classrooms; the goal is to teach the

students how to self-regulate their own emotions through deep breathing exercises. Students are asked by their teacher, to write how they feel first thing in the morning, then when they come to class, they practice deep breathing exercises, students learn how to relax while they keep their eyes closed while deep breathing, When the students are done with their breathing exercises, the teacher will ask the students to write down on their journals how they felt after they finished their breathing exercises.

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## Principal's Report

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Principal Chavez-Fritz report:

- STEAM: Focusing on TECHNOLOGY every single day, including PE
- VILS: Verizon Innovative Learning Schools Grant
  - Every student has a Chromebook with hot spot and apps
  - Professional Development for ALL teachers
  - On site technology coach
  - Collaboration and integration with core curriculum
  - Discovery Education
- INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY  
Use of technology to ensure student's learning experience
  - Google classroom
  - Listenwise
  - Nearpod
  - Khan Academy
  - Kahoot Quizzes
  - Clever
  - Flipgrid
  - Kami
  - Tutor.com
  - Saw to Grow
  - EDpuzzle
  - NEWSela
  - Mesa
- DESIGNATED TECHNOLOGY
  - Protected time where students have opportunities to develop their technology skills:
    - GEN Yes
    - Intro to STEM
    - Robotics Club
    - Intro to Technology and Computer Coding
    - Digital Media
    - Virtual Reality and Game Design

- PLANET BRAVO:
  - 3 Cycles – 4 Weeks each cycle
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Cycle:
    - Python (6<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>)
    - LUA (7<sup>TH</sup>)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle
    - Virtual Robotics
  - 3<sup>Rd</sup> Cycle
    - Java

**Parent's Q&A:**

- **Q:** Every banking Wednesday, poses a street crossing safety hazard for our students, because on Wednesdays there is never a crossing guard, is there a way to get someone to help our students out? Are those crossing guards' volunteers? It is so important that our students get help crossing the street safely, because most of the time drivers do not respect our students while they're trying to cross the street. We have mentioned this concern to the main office several times, but we still don't have a crossing guard on Wednesdays.
- **A:** The crossing guards are paid employees, I was told that on one occasion one of the crossing guards was out sick, please let me know (the principal) if you know of any days that the crossing guards is missing.
- **Q:** Students say that they tend to only line up on one or two cafeteria's windows, because students noticed that the rest of the windows are too slow to serve their food and they don't want to waste time in line, they just want to get their food fast so they can go play.
- **A:** The district is having a shortage in cafeteria's personnel, however Roosevelt maintains 4 open windows inside the cafeteria and sometimes 5 open windows outside as well, so students for some reason only want to line-up on one window even though we tell them that the rest of the windows are open. Sometimes students choose to stay in the same line with their friends.
- **Q:** Is there a way that the school could organize more lunch games more often, some students feel that is unfair that some students are cutting lines, so only a few students get to participate, also since the line is so long, by the time a student gets a chance to play, the bell rings and its already time to go back to the classroom.
- **A:** There are a lot of activities being offered during lunch, some are offered through ASB, the school offers various types of activities to ensure that every student has a chance to participate, and they

feel encouraged to have a voice, but there will be more activities to come throughout the year, so let your students know to keep an eye out for the activity of their choice. Even though the activities are only 15-minutes long, we encourage all students to participate so that they could release stress their stress and have fun as well. Students are little people that feel the same stresses that adults have, so they need an outlet to relax and have fun.

- **A:** Students are also welcomed to lead their own activity if they so choose
- **A:** Students are welcome to participate in any of the 20 clubs, which also have their own organized fun activities. Clubs meet regularly during lunch all their information is on Roosevelt's website.
- **A:** Students are welcomed to join any of the after-school enrichment's program activities, they're open to all students.
  
- **Q:** Are there any school applications to prepare students for standardized testing?
- **A:** No, there aren't any apps for standardized testing, since those are focused on reading and analytical skills, those are different kinds of tests. The school's apps are mainly to learn how to use technology and core curriculum.
- **Q:** Is it true that this year standardized testing will be waived due to covid?
- **A:** No, it will not be waived, but it will be much shorter than prior tests.
  
- **Q:** How do teachers choose which technology to use in their classroom?
- **A:** It depends on the teachers' subject, for example an English. Teacher might use CAMI, NewsLA, Nearpod, and listenWise. Another example could be a science teacher that might use the DISCOVERY education, it all depends on what subject is being presented in the classroom.
  
- **Q:** is the library open and available for the students?
- **A:** No, because of Covid19 guidelines, our regular library practices have changed, for example students may pick up books during recess or lunch, the library will be closed after schools. And when the books are returned, the books are quarantined for two weeks before they could be put back on the shelf.

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## Membership's Report

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- Laurie's asked if there's any new membership envelopes at the school's main office?

- Donna: replied that she has had two envelopes, but has forgotten to give them to Laurie
- Dave already included those two fees in the treasurer's report.
- Laurie's new membership total is 191, only 9 more new members to reach our goal of 200 new memberships for the year.
- Laurie to follow up on sending teachers an invite to join our PTSA.
- Currently we have only 19 new teacher memberships, out of 38 teachers.

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## Fundraising's Report

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- Dana (fundraising chair) is absent, due to Dana's last two committee meetings absence, Patricia Medina-Toyofuku suggested that perhaps Dana could provide the fundraising status reports to Donna (president) prior to our meetings, so that our committee could get an accurate and consistent fundraising status report for our meetings.
- Today, no Panda Express' fundraising report due to Dana's absence
- Today, no See's Candy fundraising report due to Dana's absence
- Donna thinks that See's Candy kickoff might be next week, some information will be posted on Roosevelt's website and social media when available.
- Donna thinks that maybe Dana has been missing most of our committee meetings due to her son's switching of schools, but don't know for sure.

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## Old Business

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Donna's old business report:

- No Old business report, Donna has postponed it until February 2022.

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## New Business

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Donna's new business report:

- We need to form a nominating committee for April 2022
- Last year's nominating committee can't be in this year's nominating committee: (Dr. Bruich, Norma, Lisa and Patricia)

- It's advisable that our principal Mrs. Chavez be part of the nominating committee and that she may also select a representative for her if she wishes to.
- Dana, Erica Martinez and Dave have volunteered to be our nominating committee
- The nominating committee is now complete
- Dave made a motion to approve our new nominating committee, Norma 2<sup>nd</sup> it.
- Reflections 2021-2022 theme was: "I will change the world by"  
Award were given by category:
  - Photography Award of excellence: Dorian Vogt
  - Literature Award of Merit: Mila Popovic
  - Literature Award of Merit: Logan Toyofuku,
  - Literature Award of excellence: Avery Elmer
  - Visual Arts Award of Merit: Erin Munda
  - Visual Arts Award of Merit: Munyeen Gutierrez
  - Visual Arts Award of excellence: Anna Guske
- The awards of excellence will move to the council, the winners will then move to the district, and those winners will move on to the state competition.
- Donna recommends for all participants' art be posted somewhere in the school.
- Mrs Chavez requested all the names of the participants from Donna, so that she could announce their names over the school's PA system.
- Mrs. Chavez will take a group picture after checking the participants' release forms.
- Dave: suggested to post their names on the school's website

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## Announcements

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- Donna: signed up for Roosevelt to provide 50 re-usable grocery bags, towards our council PTSA's food drive, to be distributed over 100 families within the district, a container will be placed in the main office for parents to donate, all the information will be on Roosevelt's website and social media.
- Patricia Medina-Toyofuku shared the announcement, regarding Day of the Dead, it was a very successful event, we followed all covid protocols, our Ofrenda made front page coverage on our local paper, and also got TV and media coverage, it would be nice if going forward Roosevelt would have a "Day of The Dead Event Committee" within the PTSA, so that we could get organized and fundraise early in the year in order for more teachers and students to participate in preparation to this awesome cultural event. This was the first year that our school was invited to participate in this cultural event in four years since this event was originate by Glendale's Central Library

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## Next Meeting reminder

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Reminder of next meeting:

Our next meeting will be on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 4:00 pm

Motion to adjourn was made by Donna at 10:58 am and passed unanimously.