

School Board Notes September 8, 2009

School Board Elections

The RHPCS Governing Board wishes to thank everyone who worked to ensure the school had a good election process for new members of the school's governing board. Three newly elected Board members were given the oath of office and seated on the Board. They are Leann Gilberg, Jennifer Fears, and Carolyn Mauer. Incumbent member Glen Stephenson was reelected and also took the oath of office. Chris Haechrel, recently elected but unable to attend, will be administered the oath of office at the next meeting. All school board members must have a criminal background check.

The new Board elected its officers for the upcoming year. They are:

- Rick Hart Chairman
- Glen Stephenson Vice-Chairman
- Leann Gilberg Board Treasurer
- Carolyn Mauer Board Secretary
- Niki Crow Clerk of the Board*

The new Board said good-bye to May Slaughter, Nicole Morris and Doug Varie and expressed their appreciation for all the time, effort and many contributions these individuals made to RHPCS during their terms of office on the Governing Board.

Audit Presentation

The annual required audit was presented by Kurt Folke from the Folke CPA firm. Mr. Folke was very complimentary regarding the excellent quality of the RHPCS financial records. He stated they were very precise and accurate. A copy of the audit has been forwarded to the State as required by law and a copy is available at the school office for anyone who would like to read it.

Principals Report

Dr. Montgomery reported that the opening of school went smoothly and he is very pleased. His greatest concern is the enrollment which was 215 students on Friday, September 4. He plans to report on school enrollment weekly in his Monday Report.

Much confusion exists about the school calendar. A version was published and adopted by the Board, but then an alternate calendar was circulated with an error which led to the confusion. The dates of the fall break in October are the area of concern. The Board expresses its regrets regarding the confusion and understands that many families have made vacation plans according to the version of the calendar they believed to be correct. After much discussion regarding the pros and cons of each calendar, the Board decided the original calendar showing the first week of October as fall break is the correct version. The calendar currently on the school's website is the accurate one.

* Board Clerk is a paid position but a formal vote by the Board is required. Mrs. Crow has held this job since the school first opened in 2005.

The 6th – 8th grade students will have the opportunity to attend the McCall Outdoor Science Camp from October 26 – 30. This is the third year RHPCS has participated in this worthwhile endeavor. Much more information will be forthcoming to parents regarding this exciting opportunity as well as the request for parent chaperones. Stay tuned....

Afterschool pick-up and parking is an ongoing concern, and Dr. Montgomery is exploring some suggestions for improvement.

Board members were provided information regarding Charter School Board training conducted by the Idaho State Department of Education on October 5. Also, additional Board training will be scheduled later that will be provided by the Idaho School Boards Association.

Marketing

Five thousand flyers promoting the school will be mailed to homes in the school's attendance area next week.

H1N1

Dr. Montgomery in partnership with the PFA will be developing a plan to teach the students and parents some preventative techniques to minimize the flu's impact.

Charter School Commission

The Commission will be meeting on September 17 and Rick Hart, Board Chair, will be presenting the school's progress in meeting the concerns of the Commission. At this time, the RHPCS Board is confident all concerns have been addressed in a satisfactory manner.

PFA

Kellie Kohler, PFA liaison to the Board, reported that the PFA would like to use a "free dress day" as an incentive to promote student involvement PFA activities. The idea was well received by the Board and school administrator.

The PFA will begin the Sally Foster fund raising drive soon.

Athletic Program

May Slaughter reported on the athletic program. The first volleyball game was held. Although RHPCS did not win, the student athletes showed much improvement in their skills and had a great time. All students play and team spirit is strong. The school now participates in a league with 12 other schools and playoffs will be during the first week of October.