

Rand Road PTA Minutes  
February 11, 2025 – 6:00PM  
Rand Road Media Center & Google Meet

Call to order: 6:00 PM motion to call to order made by Meghan Luzader; 2nd made by Kristen Kudenov; all approved

In-Person:

Amanda Griffin (PTA President), Jeff Peeler (Co-Vice President), Ashley Cox (PTA Secretary), Kristen Kudenov (PTA Treasurer), Meghan Luzader, Jordan Luzader, Sara Holmes, Tammy Carey, Dawn Carroll, Shirley Logan, Nailea Large

Virtual: Yanya Huddleston, Carlos Pena-Mejia, Chandra Banner, Elizabeth Edwards, Ivette Betancourt, Larissa Bryant, Georgette D'Andraia, Ingrid Stout, Mandy Hunter

Approval of last general meeting's minutes (November 12, 2024): The minutes from the last meeting were amended to show that the Science Fair has since been canceled for this school year due to lack of participation. A motion was made to accept the amended minutes by Sara Holmes; Kristen Kudenov seconded. All approved; no one was opposed.

### **Treasurer's Update**

#### **November**

November's total revenue was \$17,127.97 and expenditures totaled \$6,998.84. Credits for the month are highlighted by the \$20,744.31 we made from our Fun Run. Our Fun Run goal was \$14,000 so we made well over that amount. Debits were for the Spirit Wear costs totaling \$4,210.18 and our teacher supplies for \$1,502.76.

#### **December**

In December the total revenue was \$5,299.60 highlighted by funds from MyBooster and debits that totaled \$10,434.17. Our expenses for this month were purchasing additional walkie talkies for the school for \$2,343.68, cultural arts payments of \$1,500, K-4 field trip contributions for \$2,500 and the contributions for the 5th grade Washington, D.C. Field Trip for \$1,700.

#### **January**

January's total revenue was \$1,870.95 and expenditures totaled \$35.00. Credits for the month are highlighted by \$402.03 from the SquareOne Art fundraiser, \$250.00 from an additional Fun Run TShirt Sponsor, \$562.10 from company matching funds related to the Fun Run and \$531.21 as a sales tax refund.

We have several opportunities to purchase things to help our school and we need to amend our already approved budget to include these purchases. To break it down, with anticipated income on top of what we have already raised, we have a little over \$3,000 above all anticipated expenses for the remainder of the year in our budget. The budget areas that need to be discussed are:

- A. School Improvement/Technology - We have an opportunity to purchase a poster maker for

the school for \$2500 which includes a \$500 discount. Our current poster maker, which the PTA often uses, is no longer working. We also have had a request to add some fencing in a section by the playground. This section was never completed when the fencing was initially installed and separates our school property from a private residence. We need to add this to keep students from leaving the school grounds. The request for this has been submitted to WCPSS already but we have not heard a response including a quote on how much it would cost to repair this. We could possibly wait on this to see if the school system will take care of this as it is a safety issue. Additionally, we've had a request submitted by Dr. Herring for additional playground/recess equipment and physical education equipment to include 1 long rope per class, some new volleyballs, 2 outdoor pickleball nets and 2 pickleball sets to be used by all classes. This request also includes purchasing more volleyballs for the physical education classes and 2 sets of volleyball pads for the gym. The total request would be for \$1200.

DISCUSSION: Meghan Luzader - didn't we already purchase playground bags maybe 2 or 3 years ago? Yes, but that didn't include these items and those are also starting to show some wear and tear.

Meghan Luzader, Since we're already voting on budget changes, should we look at other areas, specifically the Spring Carnival line item budget to increase it to \$2,000? Especially since costs of all items have gone up in recent items.

Jordan Luzader - Should we request other needs from other areas in the school and look at all the areas at one time rather than just increasing just for the Physical Education request?

Ms. Carey - Looking at things from my side of it, if we open up requests for funds we might get overwhelmed with requests that we can't approve for everyone. I'd like to ask that we go ahead and approve this request for recess and Physical Education equipment because I've seen how much it's used and has gotten worn out.

A motion was made to amend the budget to increase the School Improvement/Technology line item from \$10,000 to \$14,000 and approve these purchases by Jordan Luzader; Sara Holmes seconded. All approved; no one was opposed.

- B. Science Garden - We need to install weed control in the garden. We will not be able to plant anything until we can get that under control.

A motion was made to amend the budget to increase the Science Garden line item to \$1,500 by Jordan Luzader; Meghan Luzader seconded. All approved; no one was opposed.

- C. Administration - We recently had to get a new bank account because it was originally set up back in the 90s as the wrong type of account. We now have a Business/Non-Profit bank account. But changing this came with associated fees. Our Quickbooks account also went up to \$35 a month.

A motion was made to amend the budget to increase the Administration line item to \$650 by Jordan Luzader; Meghan Luzader seconded. All approved; no one was opposed.

- D. Spring Carnival -

A motion was made to amend the budget to increase the Spring Carnival line item to \$2000

by Meghan Luzader; Sara Holmes seconded. All approved; no one was opposed.

### **Fun Run Recap**

Thank you to everyone who donated and especially to those that volunteered on the day of the event. This turned out to be our biggest fundraiser yet! Way to go Rand Road!

With the funds raised for our stretch goal, we were able to purchase lego tables for the school which will be able to be checked out by classes as incentives and can be moved from place to place.

We also purchased 6 additional walkie talkies to add to what the school recently received and make sure that more staff have access to them. Dawn Carroll - What staff members have access to the new walkies? Amanda - each grade level has 1 to share among all the teachers (for example they would all share one on the playground), the principals, the counselors, the Physical Education teacher, the ECS classes, Ms. Leach and the office staff all have one. We just received the new ones we ordered last week.

Since Booster didn't provide staff t-shirts this year, we used funds to provide those to all RRES staff as well as new umbrellas for carpool for days when it's rainy but the staff still needs to be out front. The funds also went to renewing the lease on the color copier that is available for all RRES staff to use.

### **Glow Party - Meghan Luzader**

We are very excited about this family event and we are not focused on fundraising for this. It is free for all families to attend but most importantly, you must come and stay with your students. Every student who comes will get a free glow stick and there is no obligation to purchase any of different merchandise for sale. Last year we only had 1 food truck, this year we will have 2. We are having Kono Pizza and Jolly's and they have both been told that this event is very busy and attended by a lot of families so they should be prepared for that. They will arrive in the 5pm hour so anyone that comes early will have a chance to order food and eat before the rush of families. There is no food in the gym so you will either need to eat outside or in the cafeteria.

We are hosting a breakout party for the ECS students from 5:45-6:15 that will have lower volume music and the lights will be on to make this event more accessible for all of our students to participate in. The doors will still open at 6:00 and the remainder of the students will enter and mingle.

We will turn off the lights and start the music at 6:15. There will be games available in the cafeteria for anyone that wants to have an area that is not as loud and crowded.

We need volunteers like you to make this successful! There are lots of different areas to sign up and help. This year we will have new ways to easily identify the volunteers to help any students and families to find people to help with questions. You only have to be a registered PTA member to handle the money for the merchandise sales. Anyone else can volunteer for any area. An email to all volunteers will go out next week with instructions. Please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BACAB2BA13-54256051-glow>

The merchandise we have available has been expanded this year to include more items. Most items are \$1 or \$2.

This is a very successful engagement event for our school community. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents from RRES.

### **Spring Book Fair**

Our next book fair is coming up the week of March 3 - 7. Thursday, March 6 will be Family Literacy Night and the book fair will be open for family shopping as well. The theme for Family Literacy Night is "Readers Unite!" We will have some guest staff readers, maybe including Ms. Carey and Mr. Moss.

You must be an approved WCPSS volunteer since you'll be volunteering with students without their parents around. We are using \$300 extra income from the Fun Run t-shirt sales to cover the Book Fairy Fund for this sale. The Book Fairy Fund is a way for us to help students purchase a book that is \$5 or less when they might not be able to purchase anything on their own. Ms. Tronic and Mrs. Harris are identifying which students will qualify for assistance and will bring them to the fair to purchase their book.

Sign Up <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BACAB2BA13-54743646-rand>

### **Square One Art Fundraiser**

Thanks to everyone who supported our Rand Road Artists!

We made \$400 profit to go towards our cultural arts program at Rand!

### **Teacher Appreciation**

Thank you to everyone that supported the December Hot Cocoa Bar! The teachers and staff were so appreciative of the treats.

We have 2 more opportunities coming soon to help support our teachers and staff. In February, we will be doing Valentine's goodie bags with stuff to help them all get through the day. Thank you to everyone that has already signed up to help with this - we are full!

Additionally, as a part of literacy night, we will be providing dinner to our staff since they will be staying at school through the evening. You can sign up to help with providing "Walking Tacos" to the staff here <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BACAB2BA13-54432830-walking>

There will be another opportunity coming in the month of June so be on the lookout for that as well!

If you would like to be on the committee to help plan Teacher Appreciation Snacks, meals, and treats, please email us at [randroadpta@ymail.com](mailto:randroadpta@ymail.com).

We need help with planning, securing sponsors for meals, serving, decor and more!

### **Lego Drive**

We need legos to fill the new lego tables that we bought from the stretch goal with the Fun Run. Coming later this quarter, we will be doing a lego drive and get families to donate any legos that they

are looking to get rid of. Be on the lookout for more information about this.

### **Spring Carnival**

Save the date - our next spring carnival will be held on May 17 from 2-5pm here at the school. We have already gotten lots of great donations from all over. If you have any contacts or suggestions for other raffle prizes, please reach out and let us know.

Discussion - Nailea Large - I have heard feedback from other ECS parents that they feel like they can't attend this event because it's not accessible. What is the event like? Is it a paid event? Are there bounce houses? Where are the games, etc? Amanda - all the games are around the outside of the school. We have 2 bounce houses - they are the obstacle course type and we have someone that runs them to make sure they don't get overcrowded or there are no other problems. This is a big fundraiser for the PTA and we use the funds to help the teachers and staff at the school get some reimbursement for the items they buy for their classrooms.

### **Principal's Report**

Glow grams were being collected through Monday morning. These will be delivered on Friday, February 14. This is a fundraiser for the 5th grade to help offset the cost of their field trip to Washington, D.C. A big thanks to the PTA for handling the collection of these.

Thank you to the PTA for all of the field trip support. Because so many of our field trips are farther than Wake County, we rent charter buses to safely transport our students which costs money. If anyone wants to donate directly to the school field trip fund, you can send a check into the RRES office.

Literacy night is coming in a few weeks on Thursday, March 6. It is an evening focused on reading success and how you can help your student be successful. That night is not the only time your student can go to the BOkk Fair. They will have a chance to preview with their class and then will go back as a class as a separate time to purchase. Information will be sent home later on this. We are appreciative of the PTA covering the Book Fairy fund so that everyone will get a chance to participate in this.

We are in the 3rd quarter and report cards just went home for last quarter. Please review these and reach out to your student's teacher with any questions.

Summer camp information will be coming out soon.

We will also be sending home Read to Achieve information soon. This is a state program.

Questions?:

Nailea Large - Is there a fund for lunches for kids that can't pay off their accounts in the cafeteria? Ms. Carey - yes we have Randy's account. It is funded entirely by parent donations and it also covers breakfast at the school.

Nailea Large - Is this the right time to share ideas I have for the Fun Run to make it more accessible for ECS students? Ms. Carey - that's great! Save those and share them when we start working on planning next year.

**DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP TO BE A VOLUNTEER WITH WCPSS IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY!**

**Other Fundraising Options**

- Link your Harris Teeter VIP card (this needs to be renewed every year) and also Lowes Food rewards card
- Spirit Wear store - LOTS of options, we earn 10% of every order. We are currently having one of the biggest sales of the year going on. Check it out and purchase some cool different school spirit wear.
- Rent the Rock - \$25 per week - can go to our website to rent it for birthdays, celebrations, shoutouts, positive messages, etc.

**Upcoming Dates & Reminders**

Talent Show - 2/13

Family Glow Night - 2/21

Spring Book Fair - 3/3-3/7

Family Literacy Night- 3/6

Track Out - 3/31-4/21

Spring Carnival - 5/17

**Open Floor**

Questions from the floor -

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 6:58 PM; Meghan Luzader motioned to adjourn, and Sara Holmes seconded.