

Rice PTA General Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2009

The regular General Membership Meeting of the Rice PTA was held at the Rice Elementary Café on September 8, 2009 followed by an Open House. The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm and again at 6:47 pm by Co-President, Jennifer Deen. A quorum was present. The United States Pledge of Allegiance was followed by the pledge to the Texas Flag.

President's Remarks:

- Jennifer Deen introduced herself and welcomed everyone to the first of four Rice PTA General Meetings this school year.
- Jennifer introduced the 2009-2010 Rice PTA Officers.
- Jennifer asked all board members to stand and they were given a round of applause for the work they do. Jennifer announced that there are still some board positions open. She also announced that there are tables out front with sign up sheets to volunteer for upcoming events.
- Jennifer advised that several PTA forms have been sent home with students and she asked that parents please fill them out and send them back in.
- Jennifer encouraged everyone to join PTA and find a place to volunteer. Julie McDaniel is leading our membership drive this year and membership applications and fees are due back by October 1st. Classes with 100% participation will have an ice cream party. We are looking for sponsorships for staff memberships or those that cannot afford to join. If you are able to donate towards additional memberships, please do so.
- Jennifer announced that there are several exciting events taking place. Our cookie dough fund raiser has begun and is off to a great start. Information on our Reflections contest will be sent home soon. The theme is *Beauty Is . . .* October 2nd is Custodian, Crossing Guard, and Food Service Staff Appreciation Day. Please be sure and thank them for all they do. Other upcoming events include: Fall Book Fair and Lunch With Grandfriends - October 5-9; Aluminum Can Drive - October 12-16; Family Fun Night - October 23; and Red Ribbon Week October 26-30. These are great opportunities to get involved!
- Jennifer announced that a yellow flyer was sent home today regarding student directory orders. Please be sure to include your phone number (this information was not included on the original form).
- Jennifer reminded everyone that sample shirts are available in the front office to check sizes.

Principal's Remarks (made at the end of the meeting following the committee reports):

- Jennifer Sturm thanked the PTA for all their hard work this year.
- Mrs. Sturm announced that the theme this year is *Exemplary Bound*. Rice is one of three elementary school campuses that achieved Exemplary status with the Texas Education Agency. A new Exemplary banner was put on display today.
- Mrs. Sturm introduced the teachers and staff members.

- Mrs. Sturm announced that the TISD motto this year is *Every child, every opportunity, every day.*
- Mrs. Sturm reviewed the procedures for Open House which will take place immediately following this meeting.
- Mrs. Sturm encouraged everyone to join PTA and help achieve 100% participation.

Secretary's Report:

- Carrie King reported that the minutes of the May 5, 2009 General Membership meeting were approved.
- Carrie reported that Rice PTA now has a website at www.riceelementarypta.com where information on PTA activities can be found. We also now have a Facebook and Twitter page that can be found by clicking on the links on our website.

Audit Committee's Report:

- Ginger Brandt reported that the Audit Committee has reviewed the 2008-2009 financials and everything was in order and in compliance with all Texas PTA guidelines.
- Ginger made a motion that her committee's report be accepted as stated. The motion was seconded, no discussion was had, and the motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report:

- Justin Rowe presented the 2008-2009 Year End Financial Report dated September 8, 2009 (as attached).
- Justin made a motion to accept the report as stated. The motion was seconded, no discussion was had, and the motion was approved.
- Justin presented the proposed 2009-2010 Budget Report dated September 8, 2009 (as attached).
- Justin made a motion to accept the report as stated. The motion was seconded, no discussion was had, and the motion was approved.

Committee Reports

Acquisitions

- Carol Foley reported that we are still planning on installing a new playground near the 4th grade building and we have about half of the funds needed. To raise additional funds, a *Climbing for Change* fundraiser will take place through this Friday wherein students can donate their loose change to help out. A demonstration was given and photos of potential playground designs were shown.
- Carol made a motion to reserve \$4011.00 of our 2008-2009 remaining funds balance for construction of the new playground. The motion was seconded, no discussion was had, and the motion was approved.

Fundraiser

- Kristie Copeland reported that our cookie dough fundraiser is going well and will continue to run for one more week. Prizes will be awarded on December 8th and the grand prize is a mini Acer notebook computer.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm and again at 7:08 pm.

Carrie King, Secretary

Jennifer Deen, President

Approved:

Carol Foley

Justin Rowe

Ginger Brandt