



**River Forest
Public Schools
District 90**

**Administration Building
7776 Lake Street
River Forest, Illinois 60305
708-771-8282**

PTO Council Meeting Minutes November 15, 2013

I. Call to Order

The meeting was convened at 9:17 a.m. by Ed Condon at the District 90 office. In attendance: Lincoln – Nikki Elza; Roosevelt – Kari McGrath, Suzanne Morrison, Mary Vanker; Willard – Marisa Green, Erin Eberle; District – Merryl Brownlow, Larry Garstki, Pam Hyde, Tari Marshall, Martha Ryan-Toye; Board of Education – Liz Fischer

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the October 18, 2013, meeting were approved as presented.

III. STEM Update

Martha Ryan-Toye and Larry Garstki provided an overview of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program at Roosevelt Middle School. PTO Council members discussed possible extensions for the program such as Summer School or After School options. Mr. Garstki reported that there is a Coding Club being planned for students interested in learning HTML.

Ed Condon indicated that the administrative team is also reviewing instructional elements related specifically to boys and learning.

IV. Proposed Roosevelt Exterior Project

Ed Condon reported that there will be an agenda item at the Monday, November 18, 2013, Board of Education meeting for the project. The planning committee has been expanded. He also reported that the District received a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for information related to zoning and the Roosevelt Exterior Project.

V. Diversity and Inclusivity Discussion

Ed Condon, Merryl Brownlow, and three parents are discussing how the District might improve diversity/inclusivity initiatives. They will be reaching out to involve the community in the future. The Council discussed examples of current diversity/inclusivity activities and options for additional actions.

VI. PTO Presidents Share

Roosevelt: Mary Vanker reported that the 7th grade girls basketball team won the Conference Championship. Roosevelt placed 3rd out of 36 teams at the Fenwick Science Fair. The Spelling Bees for grades 5-6 and 7-8 were held. Dark and Stormy Night was well attended and the PTO provided participants with books. Fall Fun Fest had record attendance. The PTO will be archiving its materials via Google Docs for the use of future committee chairs.

Lincoln: Nikki Elza reported that they served more than 600 meals at the Pancake Breakfast, and had approximately 40 4th grade volunteers. The Book Fair begins November 18. They are selling coupon books as a fundraiser. The Holiday Shop begins the first week of December. A Fun Lunch vendor, Puree, will donate a percentage of profits to the PTO on specified dates beginning in January.

Willard: Marisa Green reported that they launched the 3rd and 4th grade Chess Club, which was well attended. The Book Fair begins November 18, and Family Movie Night will have The Wizard of Oz. They are planning the Legacy Sports camp. Three fall fundraisers raised \$1,200. A Movie Night is scheduled for January 10, and they are seeking the donation of a sound system and screen. February 7 they will be holding a new Willard Film and Culture Fest.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 16, 9:15 a.m.