**RIDGEWOOD SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

**Board Meeting**

**August 18, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by President Adam Russell.

**Present:** Corwin Georges, Adam Russell, Bill Brougher, Marta Wojcik, Rob Young, Margaret Roark, Heather Cunningham Afshan Syed, Melinda Reardon, Scott Thacker, Aliya Ranginwala (Head of School)

**Absent:** Tariq Rizvi, Jeanne Lampe, Humera Umerani

President, Adam Russell welcomed everyone to the first board meeting of the new fiscal year.

The June retreat minutes were approved as amended to remove the statement regarding the surplus funds.

***Motion to approve made by Rob Young and seconded by Adam Russell, motion carried.***

**Finance:** Treasurer, Rob Young reviewed the finance report sent prior to the meeting. He reported we had capital expenditures for the garden, and painting of the school over the summer.

***Rob Young made motion to approve $8,000 for garden and $10,000 for painting, motion was seconded by Corwin Georges, motion carried.***

***These funds will be requested from the capital account at the Springfield Foundation.***

**Development/Alumni Relations:**  Afshan Syed reviewed the development report. She noted that the Alumni dinner is coming up next month and help is needed with set-up and tear-down. We also need donations of wine for the event to be dropped off one week prior to the event.

She reported that the Ridgewood Fund annual letter will be mailed out in September.

Corwin Georges reported that all of the history books have been delivered. He also reported that alum Catherine Blakemore and Janet Elbert both passed away in August.

The Director of Development position has been posted through Springfield Chamber of Commerce, and also sent to Heather Cunningham and Scott Thacker to post on Linked-In.

A couple of board members will be included in the interviews.

Margaret Roark donated $20 for wine at the Alumni Dinner.

**Head of School Report:** Head of School Aliya Ranginwala reported current enrollment is at 141 students. She also noted that Summer Enrichment went well this year. It continues to grow and we had a good variety of classes this year. Ohio ACE funds helped provide funding for EdChoice students to enable them to attend. She reported that we continued summer tutoring using Title 1 funding, parent self-pay, and Ohio ACE funding.

The garden project base level is now complete, and children will be engaged to add to the garden. Aliya reported that the storm caused some tree damage which has been taken care of. Custodian, Jessica Yoakem has deep cleaned each of the classrooms over the summer. She noted we have a parent who is going to maintain the learning garden and will be in charge of the garden club.

**Faculty Update:** We are still looking for a preschool aide and Aliya will be interviewing a candidate on Monday. Tutors will be assigned to grades to begin the school year. We have hired a new gym teacher, as well as a new preschool teacher to work with lead teacher Gail Suzel. She reported that the upper level teachers have organized an activity after school for each week on Wednesdays. Also, we are bringing back Ridgewood Advising Parent (RAP) group; we currently have 4 or 5 parents who will be the core group. The hope is to assign a parent as “room-parent” for each classroom. The plan is for all teachers to be seated at the front of the gym during open house to be more visible to the parents. Kristyn Keriazes will talk about the RAP group and our social media plans.

Adam commended the environment/culture that Aliya has created for the faculty here at Ridgewood.

**Governance:**  The board commended Marta Wojcik on efforts organizing the board retreat in June. The Governance committee will continue to support development. It was stated we need to discuss at future board meetings what we can do as a board to better support the school. It was noted that the finance committee needs to meet in order to set the fund raising goals for the new Director of Development.

Adam encouraged each of the board committees to meet in advance of the general meeting.

**Old Business:** We are currently working on our website revamp, and are waiting on some samples from our current web designer Bob Bingenheimer; the additional quote we received was triple the cost we are currently paying. It was noted our website needs to be more app friendly.

**New Business:** The next board meeting is scheduled for Sept 15th, and board members should bring either money or wine to that meeting.

Aliya reported we are going to look at adding a camera to the portable Viewsonic, and we plan to move the board meeting to a classroom where remote members will better be able to see and hear.

***A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bill Brougher and seconded by Rob Young.***

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.**

Respectively Submitted,

Christine Reynolds