
REEF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**April 30, 2014
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Roosevelt School Library**

6:00 PM – Board of Directors Meeting (public meeting open to all members)

I. Board Member Roll Call/Establish Quorum: (✓ if present at meeting)

Directors (Expiring 6/14)		Directors (Expiring 6/15)		Non-Voting Members	
✓	<i>Tammi Flemming ~ REEF Treasurer</i>	✓	<i>Gina Andrews</i>	✓	<i>Dr. Donna Ronzone ~ Principal</i>
✓	<i>Sabrina Koceman ~ Assist. President</i>	✓	<i>Chris Davis ~ REEF Secretary</i>	✓	<i>Alison Throop ~ Teacher Liaison</i>
✓	<i>Nancy Mixon</i>		<i>Lisa Hall</i>		
✓	<i>Stella Pynn</i>		<i>Eric Jensen</i>		
✓	<i>Eric Sanchez~ REEF President</i>		<i>Jeff Peterson ~ Parliamentarian</i>		
✓	<i>Eric Schenker</i>				
✓	<i>Kristin Story</i>				

II. Board Meeting (6:00 – 6:30)

- a. Call to Order/Roll Call:** Meeting began at 6:03 PM. Eric Sanchez led the meeting. Chris led the board member roll call to establish quorum.
- b. Meeting Minutes:** Last REEF meeting (March 19th) there were not enough board members present for a quorum and the board could not vote on the meeting minutes. Therefore, this meeting the board can vote to approve the February 26th and March 19th meeting minutes. The board began to review/discuss those minutes, when Dr. Ronzone asked to speak to the board about a number of concerns she has with respect to how the board is following the bylaws and other communication protocol. Below is a summary of those key concerns that Dr. Ronzone raised.
 - Dr. Ronzone – The agenda did not go out five days before the REEF meeting according to the bylaws. As such, Dr. Ronzone did not have an opportunity to review and comment on the agenda, she feels out of the loop and there is a problem with communication with the board.
 - Sabrina – Agrees that it doesn't seem like the board is working with Dr. Ronzone. We are here to support the staff and the principal.
 - Gina – Said this is the first time on the board that she doesn't know what's going on.

- Other members expressed concern and confusion about Dr. Ronzone's address to the board and many of the board members did not know that there was a communication problem.
- Dr. Ronzone – Expressed concern that the staff is frustrated, particularly with respect to the rollout of the AIRE program (the pilot art program that began at Roosevelt this year).
- Eric Sanchez – Expressed his apologies for not sending the agenda out five days before the REEF meeting and his part in any miscommunication with Dr. Ronzone or staff. Speaking in defense of AIRE, in August and September the art committee did a presentation of AIRE, some of the teachers were there at those meetings.
- Eric Schenker – Said we need to stay on task with respect to the agenda, and schedule a special meeting to address these concerns, we do not have time to discuss these issues at this time.
- Nancy – Said that the crux of the issue is the Art and PE programs, what the board needs from the staff and Dr. Ronzone is very clear direction on what they want to do with Art and PE. We are going to have this conversation every year unless we hear from Dr. Ronzone and staff of what they want to do. We cannot afford an Art and PE teacher so we need to do what we can with the funds we have available.
- Alison – The art committee is going to address the staff May 7th. The staff will have an opportunity then to discuss their concerns, questions, etc. and they are ready to provide their feedback.
- Dr. Ronzone – The meeting minutes need to be voted on during the general membership meeting and all general members should have the opportunity to review the draft minutes and to vote on the meeting minutes.
- Chris explained that for many years now, and as long as some of the board members can remember, the meeting minutes have always been voted on and approved during the Board of Directors meeting and have been circulated to the board for review prior to the next meeting. This way any revisions could be incorporated before the next meeting and could be quickly reviewed and approved at the beginning of the Board of Directors meeting. In the past, the draft minutes have not been circulated to the general membership, only the approved meeting minutes have been posted to the eblast for the general membership to review if interested.
- Kristin motioned to approve the REEF meeting minutes (Feb & March), Nancy amended the motion to move the meeting minutes vote into the general membership meeting for today and in future meetings. Also, for future meetings to published the draft meeting minutes via eblast and website (with watermark "Draft – not approved") so that the general membership has an opportunity to review the minutes BEFORE they are approved at the next meeting. Gina seconded the amended motion, all board members approved. The vote will be moved to the general membership meeting.

- c. Other Agenda Items:* In the interest of starting the general membership meeting on time, the other agenda items planned for the Board of Directors meeting were tabled to the end of the general membership meeting.

6:30 PM – Open Forum – General Membership Meeting

I. Welcome Address:

- Welcome address by Eric Sanchez and Dr. Ronzone.
- Translator (Viviana) was present and introduced, she explained the communication ground rules (please speak loudly, clearly, and one at a time).
- Dr. Ronzone introduced Gayle Eidelson (former Roosevelt parent and now elected school board official).
- She also introduced Mr. Handel who is here on behalf of the school district to provide information regarding an article that was in the Santa Barbara News Press this morning.
- After Dr. Ronzone introduced Gayle Eidelson and Mr. Handel, Dr. Ronzone mentioned to all attending parents that she will be excluding herself from attending the general meeting.
- Mr. Handel, spokesperson for the Santa Barbara Unified School District read a prepared statement to REEF to address the article published in the Santa Barbara News Press this morning regarding a new lawsuit involving a former teacher at Roosevelt (David Ezell) and the Santa Barbara Unified School District. Dr. Ronzone was mentioned by name in the article. Mr. Handel was here to assure the Roosevelt community that Dr. Ronzone has no involvement in the lawsuit and the topics represented in the news article are incorrect in that they accuse Dr. Ronzone of wrong doing. The facts are Dr. Ronzone did nothing wrong.
- Dr. Ronzone – Thanked Mr. Handel for speaking to REEF tonight, she then addressed the general members of REEF and explained that all Roosevelt parents are voting members of REEF and all have the right to express their concerns or opinions at REEF meetings. She expressed her thanks to Twila & Jen for all their successful efforts organizing the Rose Run. She then handed the meeting over to the REEF board president Eric Sanchez to continue the meeting.

II. Rose Run Update (Twila & Jen)

- Twila provided a summary of the Rose Run event. She explained that this year the kids had timing chips on their shoes instead of checking off cards for each lap like in years past. The timing chips allowed kids to run A LOT more laps this year. There was a lot of parent participation this year, the weather was great for running, all had a great time. They are looking forward to Friday May 2nd for the money to be collected and counted.
- This year the Rose Run collected \$21,000 in corporate sponsorships! And \$2,000 was raised during the Rose Run Rummage Sale organized by Mr. Senzamici and the 6th grade class. Many thanks for a job well done!
- Twila & Jen took to the opportunity to explain again to the REEF membership that they are stepping down as Rose Run organizers and that we will need new Rose

Run chairs to lead next year. Twila & Jen will train those individuals who are interested in leading the event next year and they have already prepared a very organized guidebook/instructions for everything they will need to run another successful event. Please see Twila, Jen, or Eric Sanchez if anyone is interested in leading the Rose Run event next year.

- May 22nd is prize day, where kids will be able to pick out their prizes based on money raised.

III. Roosevelt Dad's Poker Tournament Update (Mark Flick & Matt Davis)

- Mark Flick & Matt Davis organized the 2nd Annual Roosevelt Dad's poker tournament held on April 19th at the Carriage Museum. It was a very successful and fun event. 59 players signed up and the event raised \$6,400. Mark & Matt are looking forward to another great time at the Carriage Museum next year.
- Next year they think they can secure the Carriage Museum for free through a Roosevelt parent who is on the Carriage Museum Board (Angela Beven).
- Mark & Matt received many great prize donations and sponsors, a lot of people in the community supported this great event with food, prizes, servers, etc.
- Each participant also received a Poker Tournament Hat and 2 raffle tickets during the event. Mark & Matt plan to organized the 3rd Annual Poker Tournament next year.
- The date of the event for next year is not known yet but as soon as they are able to secure a date with the Carriage Museum, they will let REEF know.

IV. Children's Creative Project – Kristin Story discussed the cultural arts program and Children's Creative Project which has provided storytelling, dance, singing, and on May 9th a Mariachis Band will perform for the Roosevelt kids.

V. Mr. Lovejoy 4th Grade Teacher address regarding CAG (California Association of Gifted Students) Summer Learning Program

- Mr. Lovejoy explained to REEF what CAG is, and the summer program that they offer for GATE and high achieving students.
- It is valuable for teachers trained or otherwise interested in supporting GATE students at Roosevelt to see how the GATE practices are implemented in the classroom during the summer workshops. This is a great opportunity for interested teachers to gain first-hand experience in a classroom setting as observers.
- Mr. Lovejoy asked if REEF would be able to sponsor 1 to 3 teachers to be able to go to this 3 day workshop for valuable GATE training/experience. All kids (not just GATE or high achieving students) would be benefit from the skills that the teachers will learn at this workshop. There are 3 Roosevelt teachers who have expressed interest in attending the workshop (1 teacher from 5th grade and 2 teachers from 4th grade).
- The program costs \$375 per teacher to attend the 3 day workshop.
- Eric Schenker asked the following question: You mentioned students attend this camp, do you mean some of our students? Mr. Lovejoy's answer was yes. The camp teaches best practices, giving students choices for learning about topics that interest them.

- Eric Schenker also asked: How do you feel about 1 or more than one teacher attending? Mr. Lovejoy's answer was that 3 teachers have volunteered to attend. First-hand experience is always better than 1 teacher going and trying to relay the tools and practices back to the other teachers.
- Nancy motioned to fund all 3 teachers because of the value of this learning experience for our teachers and kids and the relatively low cost to provide such training. Gina seconded the motion, all members voted in favor of the motion, none opposed. REEF approved to fund 3 teachers for the CAG institute this summer.
- Dr. Ronzone will be sending information about the summer program in the Thursday folders. The camp involves interest based learning, work in collaborative groups, it is July 23rd – 25th in Goleta. This is the 17th year that the CAG institute has been running the program.

VI. 2013/2014 Supplemental Art & Garden Programs Discussion

- Dr. Ronzone reiterated that all parents have a voice at REEF meetings and are welcome to express their opinions, questions, concerns, and comments.
- Eric Sanchez – Explained that there are a lot of parents here tonight for the art and garden programs. He apologized for any lack of communication that occurred this year as the pilot art program was being implemented. He clarified that as we move forward, we will do a much better job of communication.
- Specific to the Art and Garden topics for tonight, he explained how other schools in the district (example: Washington, Adams, Cleveland, McKinley, Franklin, Harding, and Monroe) have a structured art and garden programs. If all these public schools have these programs, how can Roosevelt have similar programs that work with the teachers. The art program would be an additional/ supplemental program to support the teachers and would be in addition to the art that teachers already do in the classroom.
- With that, Eric Sanchez opened the floor to discussion and comments by the teachers, Dr. Ronzone, and general membership.
- Graham Lyons provided a brief update of the AIRE program. He explained that at the last meeting the art committee gave a presentation of AIRE, one of the issues that came up last time was “administrative concerns.” Graham has reached out to the Children’s Creative Project – which could be the administrative arm for the program, and would hire the artists, liability insurance, classes for artists in the program, etc., to alleviate many of the administrative concerns expressed at the last meeting.
- The second issue that came up last meeting was the need for better communication between the artists, teachers, Dr. Ronzone, and how to engage the entire Roosevelt community. The committee met with Dr. Ronzone and staff yesterday. It would be great to have teachers involved in the art committee moving forward.
- Next year AIRE would like to present a pallet of art teachers with skills, where the Roosevelt teachers can pick which artists would best support their classroom curriculum. One of the benefits of the AIRE program is that it is integrated into what the teachers are doing.

- The art committee is meeting with Roosevelt staff next wed to discuss their feedback/concerns of the program.
- Several Roosevelt parents spoke the same sentiment of gratitude and thanks to the art committee for all the effort that has gone into this pilot program. Many parents explained that at first they did not understand how Art was being implemented in the classroom but as they have learned more about the AIRE program from the art committee and their own children, they are thankful and impressed by the quality of the program.
- Some parents explained how much fun their kids have had with art this year.
- Overall, the parents who spoke up were all very supportive of the AIRE program.
- Alison Throop spoke on behalf of the Roosevelt teachers and explained that there has been a lot of change this year, all of which is out of all our control. One example is, in previous years the teachers have had 3 staff meetings per month, this year it has gone down to 1 staff meeting per month. This may have contributed to the lack of understanding of what was happening with the AIRE program and the communication disconnect. The staff are ready to give feedback to the art committee on May 7th.
- Dr. Ronzone explained the need to plan a program, plan the assessment, re-evaluate, and decide if you want to do it anymore. Over the last 10 years Roosevelt has had a variety of ways of providing Art. Art has always been at Roosevelt but the way it is implemented has changed. In previous years we used to be able to pay a wage for an art teacher that REEF could afford, legally and ethically we cannot do this practice anymore, and Roosevelt simply cannot afford a dedicated art teacher without taking away from other programs that REEF supports.
- Roosevelt hasn't had a dedicated art teacher in 2 years (*Note: REEF Secretary heard "4 years" stated but the factual statement is "2 years"*).
- Dr. Ronzone also explained the challenges of forming a budget for next year. Some of the basics that Roosevelt was able to fund without REEF funds this year might not be the same next year. We won't know until June when the LCAP is approved. For example this year 2 kindergarten aides and 1 curriculum specialist were funded with site funds. We simply don't know what we are going to get until LCAP is approved. The year is in a state of flux, and we are planning for a lot of contingencies, and need to continue to plan for contingencies.
- A Survey will be coming out soon to all Roosevelt parents asking for participation in prioritizing what the Roosevelt community would like to fund. This survey will go to everybody in the Thursday folder and will be available online as well.
- Alison explained that we want art, we want PE, we want science, we want everything, we just need to figure out what that looks like.
- Eric Sanchez addressed the general membership and said that "you guys are all REEF you all have a say"
- Gayle Eidelson said that LCAP is a positive thing, it's like REEF on a bigger scale. It's a new funding format. She also explained that as a district parent you all have the right to provide comments on the LCAP, you can provide comments online via the district website.

- Another Roosevelt parent (Mara Peters) spoke about how she met with Graham to discuss the art program and she admires the vision and appreciates the time and effort that has gone into the program – it’s incredibly exciting.
- Dr. Ronzone said she will wait to comment on AIRE until after the teachers have a chance to comment and provide their feedback on May 7th.
- Regarding the survey – a parent (Renata Valladares) asked if it’s possible to show the estimated costs associated with each topic. Parents need to have an estimate of what the things cost.
- The survey is intended to be a priority of what you want for your children. You will have an opportunity to vote on the budget. All the REEF membership must vote on it.
- This year the budget for the Art program was \$25,000.
- A Parent (Carmen Geiler) discussed the Green Committee - \$200.00 was in the budget this year for the “kindergarden” and other “Green” improvements around the campus - and they have some good ideas for next year.
- Eric Sanchez – The AIRE program this year was put together last minute – moving forward next year, let’s have a plan, let’s see what works for the teachers, then reevaluate it and then see how it works. If it doesn’t work after next year then we should do something different.
- Twila explained that need to make sure the funding is in place.
- Nancy – explained that what REEF mostly funds is \$175,000 for grade level curriculum specialists. Once you take that out there’s not a lot of money left. We fund a curriculum specialist for every grade level. Your kids’ teachers would probably tell you that this is the greatest gift that REEF has provided. The rest of it is all fabulous too and we well all want it, but we only have so much money to spend.
- Jen Brown explained that the annual fund platform was focused on funding curriculum specialists. There was a lot of effort to communicate this. If the tide is changing and the priorities have shifted then we as parents need to know, so we communicate to the Roosevelt community effectively when it comes time to fundraising.
- Another parent (Isa Eaton) said that she doesn’t think that the Roosevelt community wants the Art program to take the place of curriculum specialists, but that what we are talking about is that we do the best we can with the money that we do have budgeted for Art.
- Everyone should take the message to at least 5 people the importance of donating to the annual fund. It’s so hard to raise more money.
- One parent (Casson Demmon) asked if AIRE is going over budget this year? Answer from Tammi was - No, the program is within the budget this year.
- AIRE is still under consideration for next year.
- There was a lot of expressed parent support for AIRE to continue next year.
- Tammi explained that the budget for the AIRE program for next year is proposed to be higher than the \$25,000 budgeted this year, but the committee is hoping to supplement the extra costs with grants. The \$25,000 budget for art has been this way for many years (as long as Tammi can remember).

- Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm. Eric Sanchez asked a quorum of board members to please stay to wrap-up business, the general members are welcome to stay if they want to as well.

VII. Financial Report

- Tammi summarized the financials: \$70,000 in checking, \$69,000 money market.
- Poker tournament, ASEP deposits, land shark fundraiser all money coming in.
- Money going out – science camp, CIMI camp, curriculum specialist.
- Annual fund has raised \$78,000 to date. It would be nice to have a report from annual fund committee – seems to be right on target of where we were last year at this same time. Eric Sanchez will ask the annual fund committee to present an update at the next meeting.
- \$6,400 raised at the poker tournament – this item is included under the Annual Fund.
- To date, \$17,900 has been spent on the AIRE Program.
- We have underspent in some categories, overspent in some others, but overall looks like we will be ending positively.
- 2014 class (6th grade) - negative \$800 – due to Getty villa. Might be categorized after Tammi discusses with 6th grade teachers.
- 2015 class (5th grade) - negative \$1,500– due to Science Camp deposit paid recently, will be made up with fundraising.
- 2016 class (4th grade) - positive \$11,000 – For CIMI Camp next September.
- Carnival May 16th
- Need to have a budget line item for ELAC meeting next year, for babysitting. And add translation services to REEF meeting. It was really great to have the REEF meeting right after the ELAC meeting tonight because we had a good showing of lots of parents tonight. There were 40 participants at the meeting tonight. This is well above average for a typical REEF meeting.
- Nancy motioned to approve the financials, Chris seconded the motion, all board members approved the financial reports.

VIII. Meeting Minutes

- Alison Throop asked for a change to be made to the March 19th meeting minutes. Chris made the edit. Eric Schenker motioned to approved the February 26th and March 19th meeting minutes with the amendment provided by Alison, the motion was seconded, all members voted to approve the meeting minutes.

IX. OTHER

On April 30th prior to the REEF Meeting Eric Schenker provided Chris via email the following notes regarding the REEF Board Election/Nominating Committee:

Chris,

Here is the Nominating Committee Report to simplify taking minutes in this component of the agenda.

In the past weeks Stella Pynn and myself contacted numerous candidates for the 11 open board positions. To date, we have 10 commitments although three still need to submit their bio's by the May 6 deadline. We are hopeful that a two additional bio's will come to give us 12 candidates for the 11 available seats.

The current 10 individual commitments are from returning board members: Eric Sanchez, Tammi Flemming, Kristin Story, Stella Pynn, and Eric Schenker, and new candidates for 2014/2015 are Douglas Throop, Kent Mixon, Ian Jay, Angela Moloney, and Jessica Rubio-Ashtianni.

Pending approval from Dr. Ronzone, election notices will be sent out in the Thursday folder on May 8, a follow up eblast on May 9 with a link to an electronic ballot. For those without access to email, the Thursday folder will contain instructions to fill out a paper ballot in the office on Friday May 9 or Monday May 12. The election period will run from Friday May 9 to Monday May 12. Votes will be tallied and announced via an eblast asap thereafter. The last election had about 95 votes submitted, the vast majority of which were submitted electronically. To save on copy costs and time, paper ballots will not be sent to the entire membership of 625 electing instead for a notice to pick up paper ballots in the office. .

With respect to the election, there are 7 two year term seats and 4 one year term seats. The board will need to decide who is assigned which term seats. A starting point in that discussion would be to afford incumbent board members to retain the two year seats as they know what they're in for, (unless they volunteer to a 1 year seat) and the new comers to fill the 1 year seats. The order in which bio's were submitted could break any ties. Alternatively, those with the highest number of votes could choose their term but this method has the potential "to put some people off". Ideally there would be a way to assign seat terms without putting anyone off i.e. objective and without regard to vote counts.

Finally, at the request of Terri O'Donnell, the web page listing directors and committee personnel was updated this week as part of the nominating process. See attached spreadsheet. Note seat assignments are with regard to bylaw requirements and align with year of seat expiration - odd seats expire in odd years, even seats expire in even years.

Please note the open slots on the committee tab and consider possible candidates to fill these positions.

Here is the draft election notice.

NOTICE OF REEF ELECTION

Reef will hold its annual election beginning on Friday, May 9 and ending on Monday, May 12. There are two ways you can vote. 1) Via a link to an electronic ballot appearing in a special eblast to be sent on Friday, May 9. 2) By paper ballots which can be found in the office. After completing your ballot, place the document in the ballot box located in the office. There are 11 seats open this election so you will have the opportunity to cast up to 11 votes. Please participate in the election process. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Eric Schenker (and Stella Pynn)

REEF MTJ Reef 4/30

1. Sabourna Hoeman
2. Christine Davis
3. Tammi Fleming
4. Stella Pynn
5. ~~Eric~~ Eric
6. Kristin Stoy
7. Nancy Nixon
8. Alison Throop
9. Eric Schenkler
10. ~~Jesus~~ Jesus Valdez
11. Laura Zarate
12. Cristina Nicolas
13. Ana Muñoz
14. BECKY AARONSON
15. Julia Lozano
16. Diana Aldapa
17. Valerie Carney
18. Monica Rivero
19. Erica Pinos Z.
20. Isa Eaton
21. Maia Peters
22. Casson Demmon
23. Angela Moloney
24. Christopher Geuler
25. Carmen Guiter
26. Martina Madrick
27. DARRYL + ISA EATON
28. Andrea Ridgell
29. Mona McMillan
30. EMILY CAREY
31. Allison DeBusk

REEF MEETING - APRIL 30, 2014

kristin stony

Gayle Eidelson

Nancy Mixon

Sabrina Koeman

Aaron Lovejoy

Hortencia Corral

Angela Motoney Brauerman

Jan Marco von Kert

Alison Throop

Douglas Throop

J. Garonrod

Evahan Lyons

Jen Brown

Twila Douglas

Carolyn Mullin

Rafael Perea

MARK FICK

MATT DAVIS

Eric Schenker

Gina Andrews