

Parent's Council Meeting Minutes  
September 10, 2008

Attendees: Kim Kietzman, Brian McVey, Martha Licea, Brenda Didelot, Cristy Tackett-Hunt, Dora Wegman-Geedey, Debra Ryan, Jeffrey Strasser, Stacy Chambers, Kamala Reddy, Chae Hee Porubcin, Vicki Wallace, Dora Gullickson, Penny Hamby, Gillian Lederman, Mindi Mull, Uche Mbakwe, Lori Moran, Ian Harrington, Jennifer Fairchild, Cindy Murray, Rick St. Laurent, Kathy Brindle, Anne Goodman, Beth Heaney (apologies for any omissions!)

- Anne Goodman and Kathy Brindle opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and introduced this year's Parent's Council officers. They discussed resources available to parents, including the Parent's Council board in Becherer Hall, the website, and contacts listed in the student-parent handbook.
- The May meeting minutes were approved.
- The budget and treasurer's report were discussed. Carrie Bowman, treasurer, was absent. Anne Goodman reviewed these items. Magazine Drive is coming up soon. The contact for Rivermont Wear is Anne Petre this year.
- The 2008-2009 school year calendar was discussed with regards to fundraising efforts. The calendar of Parent's Council events was changed from last year to try and spread out events, rather than have so much in the fall semester. Beth Heaney brought up a concern that meeting times may be inconvenient for some parents to attend. It was decided that the November meeting will be changed to an evening meeting in addition to the March 2009 meeting to include more parents. Anne Goodman will check with the Headmaster to see if this is possible and will check into the possibility of daycare as a fundraiser for NHS or another group. Kim Kietzman suggested that Parent's Council come up with a survey to pass out to all families indicating where individual gifts and talents lie. This survey would also include where parents work and what time/s they might be available for meetings and school functions.
- The summer Science Special Project update was given by Uche Mbakwe. Parent's Council spent \$2000.00 on items for the Science program, including Foss Kits, a portable sink for the classroom and various other items that Carey DeWitt and Linda Hampton had requested for the program. Uche Mbakwe stated that this type of project is a move in the right direction, as Science and Technology are extremely important areas of learning for our children.
- Gillian Lederman discussed the Magazine Drive which is running September 8-19. The grades of Pre-K, sixth and seventh parents are responsible for this event. The parent organizers for this event are Amy Telleen, Gillian Lederman, Carrie Bowman, Mindy Cupp, and Lori Moran. There will be four main contests involved in Magazine Drive; top internet sales, top sales after week one, and top sales for early, lower, and middle/upper school. A volunteer sign up sheet was passed around and it was stated that we love online orders too.
- Book Fair is the next major fundraiser for Parent's Council and will run from October 20-24. The grades responsible for this event are Pre-School, Kindergarten, first and second. The parent organizers for this event are Katie

Franks, Kristel Ersan, Sarah McDowell, and Lisa Panozzo. Sally Foster gift wrap sales will be in conjunction with Book Fair this year, as this is also a great fundraiser. Kathy Brindle and Dora Gullickson will be the parent organizers for the Sally Foster sale.

- Rivermont Wear was discussed. Anne Petre is the contact for ordering Rivermont Wear this year. It was questioned as to whether or not Rivermont Wear could be charged to accounts—this is not a possibility due to the Business Office billing procedures. Checks are to be made out to Rivermont Parent’s Council. Kathy Brindle will speak with Anne Petre about “order by dates” and changing the order form to include numeric sizing rather than just alpha sizing. Ordering “Rivermont Grandparent” shirts or sweatshirts was discussed as an additional possibility to stock in time for Grandparent’s Day in November. We would need to use the branding image and have the Rivermont streamlined look for any new items.
- Scrapbooking was brought up as an additional agenda item. There aren’t any stores in the Quad Cities that carry Rivermont or Imp/Tiger items. It was discussed as an additional item that may go in conjunction with the Rivermont Wear store at a later time.
- The Imp/Tiger tradition was explained by Rick St. Laurent to new parents. All new students have been set up as Imps or Tigers. The first mini Imp/Tiger day is scheduled for September 19 at 2:00.
- Back to School night was discussed. Bea Sears organized the light meal prior to the evening—all parents and students appreciated the meal, no homework, the scheduling, and daycare. The format was easier to follow than in the past for the majority. Chae Porubcin requested that the Middle School/Upper School have Back to School night on a different evening, or do the presentations more staggered to encompass families with multiple children in various grades. Rick St. Laurent stated that there will be no homework on major holidays or where school attendance is required. Nametags on the front table were suggested for the future.
- Visiting author, Ying Chang Compenstine will be at Rivermont on September 25. Parent’s Council will host a reception. Chae Porubcin is working with Gwen Pokora on a special activity for this event.
- The ISACS Visiting Committee will be here October 12-15. Rick explained what ISACS is and that it is our principal accrediting body. The Visiting Committee are professionals and will be guests of the school. They will need an opportunity to meet with parents on October 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 for approximately 45 minutes. After the visit, the Committee will write a report and Rivermont will respond.
- Rivermont Night School will be on September 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 p.m. The program is based around a Frontline movie called “Growing Up Online”. Ed Knupp will be the moderator for the evening.
- The next Parent’s Council meeting is scheduled for October 8 at 8:30 a.m. in the cafeteria. Parents with young children are encouraged to attend and bring the wee ones with!