

Rock Creek Forest Elementary School

PTA Meet-and-Greet Minutes

September 5, 2019

Introduction to Rock Creek Forest

Mrs. Lowndes, Rock Creek Forest ES Principal

Mrs. Mensah, Rock Creek Forest ES Assistant Principal

Mrs. Lowndes warmly welcomed families to Rock Creek Forest and introduced Grades 3-5 classroom teachers and staff. She encouraged families to contact the front office if they do not receive the weekly Sunday email from the school. Mrs. Mensah provided Spanish translation.

PTA Introductions

Aracelis Vicente, Co-President, Rock Creek Forest ES PTA

Reema Aggarwal, Co-President, Rock Creek Forest ES PTA

The co-presidents welcome all families to school and to participate in the Rock Creek Forest PTA.

- Please join us for the Multicultural Picnic on Thursday, September 26. This is a festive, inclusive event and we'd love to have lots of participation from families. We also need lots of volunteers to make this event happen, including setting up to hosting food stations to contributing food from your family's tradition. Sign up to volunteer by clicking the "Volunteer" tab at the top of the RCFES PTA website (<http://rcfpta.org/>) or go to:
<https://signup.com/group/2153422440113> or
<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2937676/false#/invitation>
- RCF encourages anyone interested to become involved in our NAACP Parents Council. The first meeting of the year is at RCF on Tuesday, October 1, at 6:00 p.m.
- RCF Spiritwear (t-shirts in child and adult sizes as well as car magnets and other items) was available for sale at the Open House and at all the Back to School Nights. It will also be available at the Multicultural Picnic and other future RCF events.

The PTA Executive Committee for the 2019-2020 school year is:

- Co-President: Aracelis Vicente (returning)
- Co-President: Reema Aggarwal
- Co-Vice President - Fundraising: Tanea Foglia (returning)
- Co-Vice President - Outreach: Dalila Sempertegui (with Jeannethe Suntaxi & Maria Byrd)
- VP Membership: Juliana Horowitz
- Treasurer: Gaelle Seide (returning)
- Corresponding Secretary: Cami Wilcox
- Recording Secretary: Shannon Lyons (returning)
- BCC Cluster Reps: Sarah Imhof and Melissa Stein (returning)
- MCCPTA Rep: Rachel Breslin (returning) and Stefanie Hennes

PTA Membership

Juliana Horowitz, VP of Membership

Please join the RCF PTA online today at <https://rcfpta.ejoinme.org/membership>

The Rock Creek Forest Elementary School PTA has five broad objectives:

- To build and foster a community of committed parents and staff
- To support and enrich our students' education, environment, and social well-being at school
- To encourage learning opportunities at home
- To encourage enrichment opportunities for staff at school
- To raise funds in support of these goals

Juliana has been sending out messages to our Rock Creek Forest families encouraging them to join our PTA, which is one of the most important things families and teachers can do to support our school and our RCF community. At the time of this meeting, the PTA had 85 members, but our goal this year is 180 members. Juliana joked that she will not stop sending out messages asking families to join the PTA until we reach our goal!

Here is just a slice of what PTA membership and participation have done and can do with your help.

- Events hosted by the PTA, including our Multicultural Picnic and Bingo night, bring us all together for fun and camaraderie.
- Our Family Fitness Day encourages family involvement in healthy activities and contributes to community members in need through the local charity A Wider Circle. This year, Family Fitness Day will take place on Sunday, October 13. For more information or to volunteer, please contact chair Dany Núñez at nunez783@gmail.com.
- Your PTA donations sponsor academic development for teachers and staff and allow teachers to purchase items that enhance their students' learning. Past examples include ukuleles for Mr. Pagano's music class and chromebooks for classroom use, and Cultural Arts activities such as musical performances and a portable planetarium that visited RCF.
- More examples can be found at <http://rcfpta.org/join-us/>

PTA Treasurer's Report

Gaëlle Seide, Treasurer

Copies of the 2018-2019 PTA Budget Vs. Actuals and the proposed 2019-2020 PTA Budget were available for all at the meeting and can also be found at the end of these minutes.

Please note: The 2019-2020 budget will be voted on for approval at the PTA Meet and Greet on Wednesday, September 11, at 6:30 p.m. Please review.

- We have a cash-on-hand carryover of \$60,800 from last year.
- We are projecting annual PTA expenses to be \$67,600 this school year. Of that, \$25,000 will be set aside for the playground shade structure that was approved by the PTA last year and was the "special ask" at last year's RCF auction.