

Meeting Minutes Round Rock High School Theatre Booster Club Date: April 8, 2025

Attendees: Kayleen Sokol, Shelley Nelson, Paula Ferrigno, Andrea Garcia Sierra, Kelly Gumbart, Monica Welch, Dipa Kodukula, Anna Nelson, Reece Clark, Jennifer Green, Shawn Utterback, Brett Nelson, Burke Crosby, Brooke Crosby, Deanna Mateo-Mih, Michelle Cantu, Shelby Crownover, Kelly Condon, Mike Condon, Paige Morgan, Trina Martin

<u>Call to Order:</u> President Shelley Nelson called the meeting to order at7:00pm

<u>Approval of Minutes:</u> Approval of minutes dated March 11, 2025. A motion was made by Andrea S. and a second by Kelly G. to approve the minutes as presented. The minutes were unanimously approved.

President Report: - Shelly Nelson

- Banquet Planning committee met on 4/7: Shelley, Kelly G, Paula, Dipa, Andrea, Monica, and Kayleen.
 - Kelly is cooking a taco dinner, Andrea is making invites that Kayleen will send, we need volunteers to bring fruit and veggie trays, Shelley will get cakes and cookie trays from costco, Nicole will donate treats as well, Paula will get tea, sweet tea and water from Bush's
 - We will get agenda from whitmore soon
 - Deanna will bring backdrop and table set from Chaillot
 - o Also, bring the 2 from Something Rotten, Monica will do balloons again
 - Facility requests were sent and request for 8 tables.
 - Choir gets done around 3pm, we will start to show up around 2:30pm
- Booster nomination committee (Kayleen, Deanna and Kristin) met and have put forth the following candidates that have agreed to serve the RRHS Theatre Boosters Board for the 2025-2026 school year
 - o For President Shelley Nelson
 - For Vice President Kelly Gumbert
 - For Secretary Kayleen Sokol
 - For Treasurer Paige Nelson
 - For Spiritwear Monica Welch
 - o For Scholarship Dipa Kodukula
 - For Fundraising Co-Chairs Jennifer Green and MIchelle Cantu
 - For Website Kelly Condon



 A motion was made by Brett N and 2nd by Burke C to elect the slate of candidates as presented. The slate was unanimously approved

Director Report: - Johanna Whitmore

- Frankenstein -
 - March 12, Zone. Individual awards won: Outstanding Tech: Sarina Mih,
 Honorable Mention All Star Cast: Walker Wallace, All Star Cast: Ryan Crosby.
 Best Performer: Kevin Rogers. Advanced to District
 - March 28, District. Individual awards won: Outstanding Crew: Reece Clark, Honorable Mention All Star Cast: Reyna Thomas, All Star Cast: Walker Wallace, Best Performer: Kevin Rogers. Advanced to Bi-District
 - April 3, Bi-District. Individual awards won: Outstanding Tech: Olivia Sokol, Honorable Mention All Star Cast: Reyna Thomas, All Star Cast: Walker Wallace, Best Performer: Kevin Rogers. Did not advance
 - Ms Whitmore wanted to say thank you for all the support through the run of the UIL shows. She is so proud and noted how exceptional this company has been this season.
- HAYAs start at 5:30pm. Students should meet on the lawn beforehand for tickets and a group picture. Mr Groff had tickets and is unable to go. He would like to donate his tickets.
- Production shows in Ford's Theatre:
 - Production 4 student shows are May 1 & 2 at 7pm
 - 39 Steps (50 mins) and Little Women (1hr 10mins)
 - Production 3 students shows are May 7 & 8 at 7pm
 - 3 plays, original works written by students (about 1 hour total)
 - Musical Revue on May 9th at 7pm
 - Lots of performances by the musical theatre class (a little over 1 hour)
 - Kayleen will print a QR code to donations. All performances are free
- Whitmore announced her retirement at the end of this year, after 30 years of teaching (all at RRHS.) Booster and Thespian Troupe will celebrate her at banquet. Irwin will likely take 4 classes.

Troupe Report: - Reece Clark & Anna Nelson

- Thespian Meeting on April 4th -
 - Thespian of the month was Tyler Owen
- May meeting will be important for election of next year's officers. Potential officers will give speeches and voting will take place.
- Officer interest meeting will be on April 10th after school (30 mins)



- You must attend in order to be eligible and fill out the intent form. If you cannot make the meeting please reach out to Anna
- Officers are announced at the banquet.
- Points collection will be due soon. You can see the number of points you
 currently have at https://sites.google.com/view/rrhsthespians/home and selecting
 "point" from the dropdown menu. Scroll until you find the spreadsheet and find
 your name. The form to submit your points is also there.
 - o 10pts are needed to be inducted into the National Thespian Honor Society
 - \$35 to join the Thespian Honor Society
 - Continued participation will earn you an Honor Cord at graduation (\$13 for chords, received from Ms Whitmore)

Fundraising Report: - Deanna Mateo Mih & Paula Ferrigno

 Upcoming events - Amy's Ice Cream Spirit night possibly in May after the production shows (May 1 & 2 @7pm) or the Musical theatre showcase (May 9th)

<u>Treasurer Report</u> - Paige Morgan

- Updates balance \$15,221.59
- Please turn in any outstanding reimbursement requests
- Proposed budget for next year will be done before next meeting and will be voted on by the new board at the beginning of the next school year

Website: - Burke Crosby (report given by Shelley Nelson)

- Updates
 - Making update to calendar to show upcoming shows
 - Updating HAYA info

Scholarship: - Paige Heer

- Chair: Paige Heer; Members: Burke Crosby, Debbie Lemmons, Brett Nelson, Dipa Kodukula, Kristen Rogers, Jamie Rogers, and Monica Welch
- There are 11 seniors eligible to apply for the scholarship (meaning they have a Booster Membership or their family has a Family Membership)
- Email invitations (with application link and deadline information) were sent to the student email accounts of the 11 seniors with an additional email sent to any family account we had on file (student's personal and/or parent)
- An Application Announcement was posted on the Facebook page, but no link was attached.
- The application launched on the evening of Thursday, April 3rd, and will remain open until 11:59 PM on Friday, April 18th. (No late submissions will be accepted)



- Committee members are meeting on April 10th to discuss/vote on the applicant ranking system and the number of scholarships/amount they would like awarded
- Committee has \$3,000 to award in scholarships
- The Award Recipient(s) will be announced at the Theatre Banquet on May 10th.
- Students can email their counselor about getting a screenshot of their GPA for applications.

Upcoming Business: - Shelley Nelson

- Bylaws meeting for probable adjustments April 18th (Shelley, Deanna (lead), Monica, Paige M.) They will make revisions and we can vote at the next meeting
- Bond Discussion/Updates/Ideas: Michelle Cantu, Kelly Gumbert, Trina Martin with Parents for Arts Education
 - Per Mr Groff there are no plans drawn up yet. He will advocate and ensure we have theatre space, a shop and storage. Groff will be advising on the committee.
 - Before anything gets torn down they will need to move the admin offices.
 They have purchased that building but it needs to be remodeled before they can move.
 - The next steps will be to move the band pad to previous location of admin buildings, then extend building on to the current band pad.
 - We are currently at a deficit without a shop. We could use a spot in the 200 building but there is no AC or heat in that location. And we do not have tools.
 - Michelle C spoke to Schoolboard member Alicia Markum. After RFP's and Vendors the board will ask for community input.
 - The committee for planning will be community lead.
 - Alicia said we will not be relying on other PAC's. She will be sure to communicate our concerns to the Bond Committee.
 - Trina Martin:
 - RRISD structured to be very site based and Groff is our point of contact.
 - Trina was on the committee and will try to continue this work because "if you're not at the table, you're on the menu." She requested to be on the design committee because the design now will affect 40 years of students.
 - Prioritized line items: A mini PAC at RRHS, this is a waste of money. There is a need for another large PAC which would need to be addressed on another bond cycle.



- We need to be advocating for a "Fine Arts Wing" with plans to be able to expand. Emphasize that Fine Arts teaches skills that work in any career field. Argue that theatre teaches core skills.
- Demographics have been changing and currently less students are taking classes in the arts fields. There is an incentive to take STEM because it is funded in legislature.
- We need to advocate that coding and theatre are beneficial together because they both teach important skill building. Twenty first century life skills are learned in fine arts. In a hiring pole 72% of employees prize creativity as a necessary skill and 80% said they can't find it in applicants.
- Fine arts has been a biggest selling feature for our district. We will have strength in numbers. First step recommendations are to:
 - Join Parents for Arts Education so that Trina has more power when she speaks to our state and local reps about funding for arts.
 - When speaking to our leaders use specific data and numbers to appeal to them.
 - Join together with parents in other fine arts to become a united front to fight for all arts programs in our district.

Upcoming Dates:

- HAYA Awards April 16th at the Long Center at 7:30pm
- Scholarship deadline April 18th at 11:59pm
- Production IV shows: May 1st & May 2nd at 7pm
- Production III shows: May 7th & 8th at 7pm
- Musical Theatre Showcase May 9th at 7pm
- Thespian Banquet: May 10th at 4PM RRHS Cafeteria
- Booster Meeting May 13th at 7pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm

Minutes prepared by Kayleen Sokol