



## ROCHESTER MATH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

### MEETING

12 September 2022

### MINUTES

#### 1. Minutes of the Last Meeting, Matters Arising & Update on Actions

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record of the meeting and adopted.

#### 2. Requests for Funds (was brought forward on agenda as needed school's POV and CM was only available for a certain period of time)

- 2 x Stonylab Digital water baths - Mr Barley (Chemistry) at a cost £257.30 - approved
- 30 x The Almighty Dollar - Mrs Cullis (Geography) at a cost of £209.70 – to enable students to read a book that is additional to the standard curriculum texts used in class to help reading for learning and improving literacy – Approved
- 34 x Horrible Geography Stormy Weather - Mrs Cullis (Geography) at a cost of £92.50 – for Y7 students to read in form time, so they can read a book that is additional to the standard curriculum texts used in class and to help improve reading for learning & literacy – approved. (However, we have had a parent offer to purchase these as a gift to the school so we may not need RMSA funding. I have passed the parent's details to Emily but the parent wishes to otherwise remain anonymous)
- Yamaha piano - Mrs Morris (Music) at a cost of £5190 – to re-engage choir & wind band, and will be used to support school musical events. Jane has spoken to a musical expert friend who has confirmed that this is a reasonable cost for an upright Yamaha and it is the best option as they are value for money (it will last a long time) - approved
- Crest Award - Miss Wallace (Science Club) at a cost of £100 - This is on the understanding that we have already provided Crest Award funding in the academic year 2021-2022 and we cannot guarantee being able or willing to fund this every year. A separate request will need to be made each year and discussed on its merits at the time along with any other funding requests we receive.
- Digital balances - Miss Wallace (Biology) at a cost of £1680.15 - As the request stands, it is curriculum-related and therefore doesn't appear to fit our remit in providing extras that go above and beyond the curriculum. The request also does not state the number of balances required (we are assuming it is more than one due to the total cost) and we'd like to know the unit cost of each one. However, unless the request can be rewritten to clearly demonstrate that the item(s) are to help with extra-curricular activities or are not essential to the requirements of the curriculum, we are unfortunately unable to approve at this time - not approved at this stage
- 4-man tents - Miss Harrison (DofE) at a cost of £3,210 (15 tents at £214 each) - Whilst this is exactly the sort of thing we would be happy to fund, we'd like to understand whether there are cheaper alternatives. £214 per tent is a significant sum of money. Have places like Go Outdoors, Mountain Warehouse and other camping shops been explored? If we eventually agreed to fund

this request, we would like to be able to fund all 15 tents but in this case we feel that we should see at least 3 quotes. We also would like to know how the tents would be stored and if they will be looked after and fully dried and aired out before being packed away after use. For such a significant sum of money, we would be extremely disappointed if any of the tents were damaged or went mouldy and would expect them to last for a good number of years. Also, does the cost quoted include VAT? - Not approved at this stage.

- 2 x sewing machines - Mr Robson (DT) at a cost of £536.95 (£262 each + £12.95 postage) - As per the digital balances above, this request appears to be related to what can be offered within the core curriculum for GCSE and A level and therefore, on the face of it, does not fall within our remit and the items should be funded from the departmental budget. If it could be demonstrated that these would be used as part of some form of textile club, the request could be resubmitted for us to reconsider - Not approved at this stage.
- Fridge - Mrs Carrier (Food Tech) at a cost of £229 - The fridge is needed to support the core curriculum and should be purchased from the departmental budget - Not approved.
- 35 x midi keyboards - Mrs Morris (Music) – we have one computer suite with keyboards attached and having these will mean that when classes clash, students will still be able to access Music Technology during lessons from the other classroom. How often do the classes clash and could they be used alternately between the classes rather than them having to use them at the same time? It would seem that these are to support the core curriculum. If they were to be used as part of a club or were otherwise for the students' enrichment outside of the core curriculum, then we might be able to reconsider in the future – not approved.
- Hockey Inclusion Officer - Mr Webster (PE) at a cost of £500 – to enhance the students' hockey experience by giving them more quality coaching helping them to fulfil their potential. We require clarification on the logistics of this. What exactly is the hockey inclusion officer and will it be a one-off cost, an annual cost or a cost for a certain period of time? We also would like to clarify if this is part of the core curriculum for PE or for the extra-curricular hockey clubs. If it is an annual cost and we do agree to approve this request, it must be noted that we wouldn't be able to fund this every year – a new funding request would need to be submitted and discussed on its merits along with all other funding requests received at that time – not approved at this time.
- Veo 2 Camera/tripod/subscription - Mr McNamara (PE) at a cost of £1817 – to allow video of all sporting events at the school and PE/training sessions. This can help provide visual feedback to our students on their performances and provide informal training for teachers/coaches. Could also potentially provide a live stream. We are not averse to this request but we need clarification on the breakdown of the cost of the equipment and the subscription. How much is the subscription on its own and if it is an annual cost, how will this be funded in the future? We cannot guarantee that the RMSA will be able to provide funding for subscription in future so can they assure that the equipment won't become redundant if they cannot buy subscription? If they would require funding in the future for this, a new request would need to be submitted and discussed on its merits along with all other funding requests received at that time and dependent on what funds are available. Is this the only equipment available or are there cheaper options? – not approved at this time.

### 3. **Feedback on previous events**

Foundation Day and Y7 rugby morning - Both went really well. Thank you to Jeff for his volunteers because that was really useful.

### 4. **Forthcoming Events**

Y13 next steps – Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Sept ? – Jane will email Cheryl and find out what events they want us to support.

20<sup>th</sup> October new entrant's eve

Christmas Fayre 19<sup>th</sup> Nov

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> Sept – inflatables 3 sessions 4-5, 5-6, 6-7 (see email about times) some of money raised goes to RMSA. RMSA come and do refreshments – volunteers will be needed. Getting here about 3ish to set up. Going to be one last Sunday of every month between now and July 2023 – there will be one in November running at the Christmas Fayre and the one at the end of the month will not take place.

### 5. **Christmas Fayre**

Checklist has been emailed.

Christmas fayre - £10 per table charged last time, minimum of £15 – could do early bird booking for £15 and later for October goes up to £20. Just concerned if might be too much of a jump for those who we've booked before so settle for £15 this year and then look at going to £20 for next year.

Looking for someone who can design the leaflets for the fayre – Anita mentioned Canva. Angela will look into it as she uses it for work.

We will be looking for volunteers to do the leaflet drop around the local roads to the school.

Parentkind insurance – public liability insurance will be required for stalls this year.

We will bring forward the next RMSA meeting from the second Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Nov to the first Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Nov of term – gives us extra time to finalise everything before the Christmas Fayre on Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Nov (otherwise it would only be 5 days before the fayre takes place).

### 6. **Lost Property Update**

From Sue via email - Nearly £700 raised during the school holiday and £27 to pay in as soon as she receives it.

Cathy said there are still a lot of watches there and asked would it be an issue to take them to somewhere like a pawn shop to get rid of them. Cannot see why it would be an issue.

Updated name lists – Jane suggested emailing Cheryl Pullies to ask if she is able to help provide lists for the other year groups. This would make it easier to match up any named lost property items with the correct students.

Currently lost property is open at lunch times Tues and Weds.

Cathy & Dave stated that one of the racks has now disintegrated. Also now Christmas trees are in there, we don't have room for 4 racks anymore. They have 2 that Sue has got from a friend who worked in retail but Cathy advised we could do with another heavy duty clothes rail to replace the wobbly one but 2 would be useful. Dave suggested putting up 2 rails but we need them to be portable for when we sell the lost property at events. Sameera will get back to us as she might be able to source something via her work. Anita can talk to her friend who also has run lost property at another school and might have some spare market stalls.

Jane will send email to link up Cathy, Dave, Sue and Sameera to see if they can work out what is suitable.

**7. Update from Sixth Form**

No update at this time.

**8. Update from Charlie Alderman**

No update at this time

**9. Update from OW**

No update at this time.

**10. Any Other Business**

No AOB

***\*Date of the next RMSA meeting ~ Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022 @ 7pm, SJWMS\****

**Actions**

Ref.	Date	Agenda Item	Activity	Owner
T6.6	<i>On-going</i>	Giving Machine/Amazon Smile	CA to promote with staff & will send information from Jane across to the new 6 <sup>th</sup> form reps.	Charlie
T1.17	<i>On-going</i>	Lost Property	See LP update above.	Sue C / Cathy / Dave
T2.9	<i>On-going</i>	AOB	Reminder and information to members about the Parentkind website. Anyone can join Parentkind, committee members have to be approved by RMSA officers.  Also about the Facebook page – PTA hangout. Worth joining for ideas and information.	All
T5.2	<i>ongoing</i>	AOB	6 <sup>th</sup> form reps to look after the walkie talkies and will make sure they are all charged ready for use.  Charlie to liaise with Deji and the new 6 <sup>th</sup> form representatives to let us know info so we can send for future meetings	New 6 <sup>th</sup> form reps (TBA)  Charlie
T6.1	<i>ongoing</i>	AOB	All to promote School Lottery, TGM, Amazon Smile etc.	All
T1.1	12 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2022	Lost Property	Cathy to email Cheryl Pullies to see if can get updated yr group name lists  Jane to link Cathy, Dave & Sameera re. possible racking solutions	Cathy  Jane
T1.2	12 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2022	Christmas Fayre	Angela to look at creating a leaflet to advertise Christmas Fayre	Angela