

# Ridge Road PTO Meeting Minutes

November 12, 2025 @ RR

The meeting was called to order by Miranda Rice

Members in Attendance:

Principal: Mrs. Bailey

President: Miranda Rice

Vice President: Sarah Swimelar

Secretary: Kristi Coldiron

Co-Treasurers: Nadiya Auerbach and Angela Fitch

Co-fundraiser: Emily Grose and Sam Moon

Others: Pauline Tao, Lori-Ann Barbieri, Matt Moon, Ryan Rice

## **Treasurers Report:**

**Beginning balance:** \$24,072.76

**Ending balance:** \$33,300.83

## **Old Business:**

**Wilson beef sticks: 9/22-10/3:** Beef sticks were distributed to parents on 10/28. Our sales were 1167 bags \$23,340 and our profit was \$8,169. This was an increase in profit of about \$1200 from 2024. Two vehicles went to pick up and we had 27 boxes. They all fit in one truck. We will look at how many boxes we have next year to compare and see how many vehicles we need to take. We decided to give the volunteers who went to do pickup a reimbursement for gas.

**10/24 Halloween Dance 6:30-8:00:** Next year we need to have two \$200 cash boxes and more 1's and 5's in the safe for the event. We sold bags of chips, cookies, water, Gatorade and LED rings. They all sold well, there was a constant line the entire dance. We sold 727 items at the concession stand, that paid for the new lights, haunted house and inflatable decorations. The location was great, if Ridge Road gym will be a good fit the dance will be there, although we did say we would talk about it next year being at the middle school again. We noticed some of the younger students were scared to go in the gym for the dance. One idea is to have them enter 20-30 minutes before everyone else.

**10/29 Japan Visitors:** They enjoyed the cookies and the Ridge Road t shirts the PTO gifted them. We had 20 visitors this year.

**11/6 Veterans Day Celebration:** We purchased a doorway banner, a banner for the hall, and keychains for the celebration along with cards from students. Mrs. Bailey purchased some food (donuts) and they were all gone. We definitely need to get food for next year.

## **New Business:**

**Food drive 11/12-11/21:** This year we didn't do a food drive as a district for Make a Difference Day so RR PTO is hosting a food drive for our local food pantry. We will be collecting non-perishable items and monetary donations. 100% will be donated to the Horseheads Food Pantry. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes will pack it up and Mrs. Bailey is checking to see if the 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes can deliver it. Tuesday 11/25 in the afternoon would be a good time to deliver it. We will also set up a zeffy link if people would like to donate.

**Picture make up 11/18:** Pauline is available to volunteer and help kids look their best. Time would be from 8:45 till around 12.

**Family Night: 12/5 6:30:** Book Bingo will be a free event for families. Limit of 2 cards per person, we need to order cards. We have to purchase water and Gatorade. Miranda will get the drinks. We have bags of chips and cookies left over from the Halloween Dance for concession. We will need one \$200 bank set up. We can do more winners per game, we had leftover prizes last year. We need to order new markers. We talked about doing door prizes, every few games draw winners to receive books, in addition to the prizes for bingo. At the end, all players can take a sticker or small treat. We will send home save the dates/RSVP on 11/20 and RSVP by 12/3. Volunteers: we have 2 high school students that will volunteer, and Emily and Jase Grose will do concessions.

**4<sup>th</sup> grade legacy books:** In the past we had a \$400 budget to purchase the books for the project. Mrs. Robbins is requesting an increase of \$50 to cover the cost of purchasing more books since we have more 4<sup>th</sup> graders this year. The pto agreed to increase the budget.

**Staff holiday party 12/18 3:35:** We provide a mix of appetizers, sweets and drinks. Our budget is \$650. We will hold it in the library and start setting up at 2:30. Miranda and Angela will work on this project.

## **Upcoming Events:**

**Kindergarten:** Cookies and hot cocoa with Santa. We need to purchase cookies, napkins, and chocolate milk. We need to check and see if we need to purchase more cups. Miranda will ask Erica to take the Santa photos. Mr. Moon will volunteer to help out that day with the Kindergarten classes and Santa.

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade cookie dough roll out:** We reimburse the teachers expenses up to \$125. We increased the budget \$25.

**2<sup>nd</sup> grade Gingerbread Day:** We reimburse the teachers expenses up to \$125. We increased the budget \$25.

**Family Swim night and book drive 1/9:** Mr. Moon will help collect the books

**Title 1: Parent and Family Engagement Policy Feedback with Mrs. Bailey:** We want to see if we can add or do something different to engage families. The policies are already set for a partnership between the school and families.

**Barriers: What prevents families from participating?**

- People don't think they are needed (that everything is taken care of)
- Transportation
- Families are busy, they have things going on and sometimes its just a long day
- Work schedules: some parents work different shifts or multiple jobs

**Needs: What do families need to support student learning**

- Some families need basic technology (device, internet)
- Resources and materials (school supplies, books for reading, a quiet consistent workspace)
- Clear expectations and instructions on what students are supposed to do each night (with examples)
- Strategies for fitting homework into busy family schedules

**Strategies: What builds strong school-family partnerships?**

- During evening events provide nourishing foods for families
- We have a partnership with a reading organization that will bring books to our events for the kids to take home
- We could look into a partnership with a kid's farmers market to have them bring the market to school (like Thorne St) Have it open to everyone
- We could have a loan program for computer devices for families that do not have anything

**Activities: Ideas for Title 1 PFE activities:**

- Do something where families can come into the school more often, so they feel comfortable (special visitor that comes in to eat lunch with them, families come in

and do games with students at lunch time on Fridays, invite parents in to read to the classroom or read with students)

- Science night
- Family project: (monthly take home project for families to complete together)
- Family night in March: ice cream/ reading night: *\*March is national reading month\**

We can have tables by grade level and a different station at each one

Some staff can do read alouds

4<sup>th</sup> graders reader theater: read and dress up as characters to act out a story

Each child can go home with a free book

Have an ice cream station

- Have a game night