

## Ridgewood PTO Meeting- September 12, 2017

Meeting Location: Media Center at Ridgewood Elementary

Gym Helpers: Ella McWherter, Gabby Roberts

Call to Order- 7 PM

- Welcome and Purpose
  - Introductions of leadership team
  - Purpose: Take care of our school and make this year better than the last
  - PTO Website- on school website
- Robert Rules of Order are used
- Volunteer badges- MANDATORY to volunteer in the school

President Report- Brandy Merryman

- Meeting Agenda Review
- Yellow Cards
  - Can be used for ideas / questions / make your voice heard
- Staff Recognition
  - Melissa Forbes → Mrs. Dunworth extra help and communication for kids who need it
  - Katy Swathwood → Mr. Marshall's handwritten notes to each student before school year

Treasurer Report

- Highlights
  - All treasury forms on PTO website- Reimbursement, Sales Tax Exemption, 501C3 Form
  - Paper copies also available in the office by the BUN coffee maker
  - PTO Mailboxes (regular and treasury) are on the office wall near Mr. Buchman's office
- Review 2016/17 Year End
  - Last year- total income approx. 60K, spend was 70K
  - Excessive spend over income approx. 11K- planned/intentional to reduce large cash reserves
    - ISPTO direction that cash reserves are too high
  - Cash Reserves now: 28K
    - Discussion around spending this year to reduce cash reserves, but more conservative approach may be needed in the future
  - Jamie discussed staff assistance funding (approx. \$200 per staff member)
  - Spending Highlights from last year- drinking fountain systems
- Discuss and Approve Budget
  - Proposed income-61K
  - Proposed Expense-76K
    - Differences from last year- 2 more "sustainable bottle" fountains, gaga ball pit
  - Alicia Motions to approve budget for \$76,330
    - Steve seconds
    - Motion passes- budget approved
- Grant for Momentum- applying to help with bussing costs

Principal Report

- Energy Bus- Focus on Positive attitudes and self responsibility

- One of 2 elementary schools in Ohio
- Kevin has rounded the bases with all grades to share the energy bus story
- 4<sup>th</sup> graders sang original song at School Board meeting, written by Mrs. Wilkinson

#### ISPTO Report

- Alicia and Bret represent Ridgewood with district wide PTO group
- Fun opportunity to find out what other schools in the district are doing

#### Coordinator and Committee Reports

- Volunteer Coordinator & RoadRunner Run- Jill Snyder
  - Coordinate volunteers, set up sign up genius, help volunteers understand their roles
  - Ways to keep up with what's going on: Give us your email, Facebook "Ridgewood Elementary PTO", Mr. Buchman's ENews
- Room Parent Coordinator- Cindy Conway
  - CHANGE this year- no longer be responsible for baskets, focused on class parties and teacher gifts
- Wellness- Lori Gill (Absent) Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>- 1<sup>st</sup> meeting
  - Taste Test Tuesday- 1x / month team introduces them to a new veggie or healthy snack
  - Mission is to provide practical strategies to increase the school's health
  - On Facebook- "Ridgewood Elementary Wellness Group"
- Publishing Shop- Jen Heimberger
  - CHANGE this year- shop is now on a cart to be done in each classroom
  - Two types of volunteers- 1. Make covers @ home, 2. Help make books in classroom
  - Still determining how communication will work between teachers and publishing shop
- Hospitality- Rebecca Jacobs
  - Provide Food at parent teacher conferences in October and February
  - Staff Appreciation Week- provide breaks, massage, snacks for teachers
- Walk-A-Thon OCTOBER 13- Steve Kirtland
  - Largest moneymaker annually for PTO
  - Kickoff September 22, theme will be revealed then
  - Incentives will be school wide
  - Each Grade will do walk during specials time, Kindergarten will determine a time
  - Ideas for donations, especially school wide, are appreciated
  - [ridgewoodwalkathon@gmail.com](mailto:ridgewoodwalkathon@gmail.com) → Email with ideas, questions, donations

#### Announcements

- Spirit Nights
  - Dates at particular locations give a percentage of proceeds to PTO; details to follow
    - Sept 21<sup>st</sup> - PULP
    - Oct 24<sup>th</sup>- Dickey's BBQ
    - November 9<sup>th</sup>- One Hope Wine Event at Coffee Connections Annex
    - January 16<sup>th</sup>- Rapid Fire Pizza Mill Run
- Julie Motions to Adjourn, Mike seconds, Meeting is adjourned 8:17 pm

**THANKS TO ALL PARENTS FOR COMING! YAY!**

**NEXT MEETING October 10<sup>th</sup>**