

PTO GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**Wednesday, September 20, 2023
6 PM**

I. Call to Order & Welcome
II. Calendar of Events

- **Back to School Bash (recap)**
 - i. Feedback on event was good.
 - ii. DJ report – it took a little to get kids going, started at 530 but dancing started at 630 once kids got into it and down to that area. Changes with how pre v post COVID, taking kids more to get back in close(r) quarters so good to know for future events and plan accordingly.
 - iii. No incidents at the event save a skinned knee and stray shopping cart; overall, kids well behaved at event. Separate discussion re how HS football games have been and expectations of kids to attend with parent/adult.
 - iv. We had great help from High School volunteers.
 - v. KONA Snow cones - \$317 raised; amount given to PTO since KONA ran this as a fundraiser.
 - vi. Mr. Butler, Mr. Trulen and Ms. Owens and Ms. Kays and others came/volunteered – BIG thank you’s all around to volunteers and all who attended.
- **Upcoming Events**
 - i. **Coyote Run – Wend, 9/27 (Early Release Day)**
 - Christy Gibney is chairing this event. Lori Hurley is doing photos, with voting on best theme/etc. DJ is set to go, balloon arch with start and finish sides. May need a few parents to help set up for the advisory classrooms; Sara M can use Coyote Crew to collect envelopes from advisory rooms and brings to staff for counts.

- Emails and SM postings this week and next as reminder. QR codes to be posted:



- Principal Sara McCarney is working on the draft schedule for the event and will be sharing with the PTO.
 - This year snacks will be in the advisory classrooms not on the field, helps with trash management. Water will be on field and available, but we want to encourage water bottles to be brought outside (will have space to put them down on a table). Sarah T will work with Kalinda and coordinate with school resource Bernie on table needs, tents (in case of rain/poor weather – forecast at this time looks potentially rainy. Runs will be by grade, so up to 200+ at a time.
 - Teachers can request theme song for walk up.
 - Whole school reward is KONA for all (idea is to celebrate all, not just one class – it’s an effort by whole school community). Discussion of various ways to incent giving: Trillium incented donations by setting goal of if XX level made/reached, everyone gets piece of spirit wear. RRMS PTO goal this year is \$30K (considering if every student did \$100, that would be \$70K). Ideas - popsicles or principal dresses up for progressive goals to help all. Sara will consider options for Principal McCarney to review.
- ii. Fall Conferences – Set for Wend 10/11 and Thur 10/12**
- Lisa Johnson – will chair and happy to co-chair with interested person(s)

- Sarah T – will be reviewing help counter and reaching out to volunteers.
 - Discussed option of parent-funded sponsor of meals and go with catering for ease. Might be an option for future, folks also like to give personally. Consideration of adding option to Sign-up Genius for donation in lieu of food donation which could help fill in as needed menu items. Going to be more review of sign-up genius options in prep for this event.
 - Joy V. shared about option in MoneyMinder to set up store (CheddarUp) – Sandra will work with Joy on options to set up.

iii. **Monster Mash – Fri, 10/27**

- Sarah T is going to send out email and ongoing outreach to look for a chair as one is still needed for this event.

iv. **Calendar of events** – more to come later in year.

- **Volunteering** – register at <http://www.helpcounter.net/wlwy>
 - i. Background check/registration is good for 2 years. Sarah and Lisa are going to work on outreach to volunteers who have signed up already and reacho ut.

III. Spirit Wear

- RRMS online store is thru Kadmark, linked thru/to PTO site: [Rosemont Ridge Middle School | KadMark Print & Embroidery | powered by OrderMyGear \(itemorder.com\)](http://RosemontRidgeMiddleSchool.com)
- There are options for bulk order, easy pick up
- Discussed that spiritwear demand amongst students seems to be decreasing

IV. Treasurer's Report

- Back to School Bash – on track for budget and maybe a little under for costs, plus got \$317 back from KONA (since student paid, helped with higher costs of inflatables for event)
- No other new news on budget front save Penny is ready for WLWV check of \$40K for new sound system (replacing original system that was

almost 30 years old) – that was what last year fundraising was used for. Almost ready for final installation, awaiting parts.

- Coyote Run – update at next meeting. We're up to \$1000 in donations already.

V. No Idling Campaign (update from Charity attending online)

- Sustainability Advisory Board for WL wants to help schools with any eco initiatives. Charity reached out about a no-idling campaign and WLWV Superintendent is supportive of the idea.
 - i. RRMS would be a beta site in district to have this initiative, students could make signs or signs could be purchased, signs need to be mobile (cannot be made permanent/affixed). Trillium is considering doing this too. Options for videos that can be shared with parents to inform.
 - ii. Principal Sara wants to be sensitive to not making staff / monitors having to enforce this as it could involve questions/pushback from parents or others unfamiliar with program. Dropoff and pick up is busy and stressful time. Charity noted that this would be a visual only campaign – signs to help inform about idling vehicles while waiting for pickup (more idling in afternoons than in AM for drop off, so that would be the focus).
 - Also some logistical questions around having to put signs in and out each day, and who would do that. Sara shared that the PTO has some metal frames (but not good in wind). Sandwich board would be great. Also idea of other encouragements toward same end – carpooling, set up a connection corner to help parents/student connect for carpool to reduce vehicles. Would also help address / tie into the time its taking to drop off.
 - Question about whether we have students interested – student leadership teams are just starting up – volunteerism is one, and there may be student art / media that could or would be interested in videos.
- b. Next week is the first Eco School Network Meeting – Tuesday 9/26 at 6:30 PM at Sunset Primary in the Library (all welcome)
- c. Links for more info:

- <https://ecoschoolnetwork.org/>
- <https://ecoschoolnetwork.org/get-involved/training/>
- https://afdc.energy.gov/files/u/publication/idling_personal_vehicles.pdf
- <https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/articles/reducing-vehicle-idling-time-school-helps-kids-and-parents-breathe-easier>

VI. Principal's Report

- New year and busy first month. 15 new staff members added. Very collaborative school and team.
- **Back to School Night** - successful, positive feedback from participants. Sneak Peek and Smart Start were reimaged this year and set up now so these happened while staff is in school – open house style for incoming 6th graders and allowed participation on own terms. Sandra will reach out to district to note that it would be nice to not have primary, middle and high school dates all on the same date as that means some parents/guardians cannot attend.
- **Conferences** – teachers working on goal setting with kids. RR has an instruction coordinator (Erin) which is key for our size school. Next PTO meeting – Sarah will present school work plan and invite a WLWV School Board Member (Louis Taylor) – 10 to 15 minutes. He will also have a student and teacher panel.

VII. New Business

- Joy: brought up a sign for cafeteria re food waste.
- Discussion re down shift in kids wanting spiritwear

VIII. Q&A

IX. Adjournment: 7:08 PM

2023 – 2024 PTO Board:

President – Sarah Tycast
Vice President – Lisa Johnson
Treasurer – Sandra Kirchner & Grace Teng
Secretary – Kat Rosenbaum

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