

Ridgeline PTA Minutes

Thursday September 5, 2013 @ 9.30 held at Ridgeline Elementary

Excused: Shanna Carroll, Aimee Peterson, Lysie Smith

In attendance: Arlene Lauper, Jen Fairbanks, Julie Matern, Laura Harris, Elizabeth Sweat, Anna Lankford, Tanya Parke, Harmony Young, Kari Tuttle, Mary Thomas, Julie Brinkerhoff, Melissa Eastman, Kelly Koch, Brittiny Gardner, Dr Higgins, Wendy Condie, Heather Crowder, Alicia Dahl,

1. Call to order – Laura Harris 9.40am
2. Pledge and thought – Kari Tuttle
3. Minutes from May – Julie Matern . Motion to approve. Minutes stand approved.
4. Treasurer's report – Wendy Condie

i) Budget –

Proposed budget - tightened this year. See year end financial statement. Year financial review needs to be approved also. Approve at end of meeting so that everyone can see if before approval. Mary Thomas question - \$4000 for fundraising? Wendy- cost of year books, net \$1000. Laura Harris – cuts made to be more responsible in spending. Will be asked to justify any receipt you submit for expenses this year. Any money that you want to spend needs to be pre-approved. Unapproved expenses will not be reimbursed.

Procedure for reimbursement: a) Obtain a check request form from PTA box in teacher's lounge. b) Itemize receipt. Have to submit tax. Don't add personal items to any PTA receipt. c) Fill out purpose and why you spent it. Need to be transparent in our spending.

Can amend budget but has to be BEFORE money spent.

Other budget questions:

Heather – lunch with Dr Higgins. Not on there? Kept as silent auction. Wasn't listed as an expense. Need to amend that to \$100. Change on budget to 'Lunch with Principal.'

Laura - We took out teacher gift- need to put it back as separate line item. Keep as \$75. Teacher appreciation – do we want to scale this back? Mrs Gardner – do you like the craft/treat every day? Treats preferred. Is \$800 all for gifts for teachers, shouldn't that money be used for school – Mary. Alicia seconds that. Parents do things on their own for teacher. Laura – that's why it nearer end of school. Can we do it for less? Explanation of teacher appreciation for new member. One gift for the week.

Proposal to reduce budget to \$400 for teacher appreciation.

Motion to approve budget by Laura Harris. Seconded by Kari Tuttle. Motion approved at 11.05am.

Officer and commissioner reports

5. President's Report – Laura Harris

i) Vote on new teacher rep and health and safety commissioner.

Mr Sessions had to resign. Laura moves to vote in Mrs Garnder as new teacher rep, Julie Brinkerhoff seconded. Approved.

ii) Mary Thomas to replace Laura Anderson as health and safety commissioner. Laura Harris moves to vote in Mary.

Seconded Jen Fairbanks. Approved.

iii) *Open House – success*

6. President-elect Report – Jen Fairbanks -Nothing to report

7. Membership VP – Julie Brinkerhoff – membership drive at Open House – 274. (last year only 117) Will push it as Parent/teacher conf. Council has asked us to boost. We can win awards.

8. Teacher rep – Brittainy Gardner – nothing yet

9. Principal's report – Dr Higgins

i) *New school grading system. Most principals and teachers orgs are not liking new grading system. 4% of Utah schools got a failing grade – mostly HS and alternative schools. Some big schools failed because participation too low. Ridgeline came out as B grade. We can do better. 11% of state got A, 45% B's. We do great with proficiency: 89% science, 91% LA, 91% math. We are hurt on improvement. All kids need to grow and maintain. Gone from 3% Special ed – 11%. They go in the mix. Harder for them to improve. Economics plays a part: went from 3% – 13% free lunch. Big factor. Put emphasis on lower grades – every K has aide – will pay good dividends. Optional extended day for K continued this year for targeted kids. RAZ kids – grant money – computer based. Reading Horizons – new phonics based program. Teachers being trained and parents welcome to training.*

ii) *10 extra kids since beginning of school. But class size is great. 31 is highest. Average 25. Got funding right after school started for new 2nd grade teacher and new resource teacher.*

iii) ***Remember Smith's bar code. Got \$5800 last year. Lot of freedom with money. Promote it.*

iv) *New computer lab from grant and 40 Ipads and 3 new kindles.*

v) *New neighborhoods - 170 homes going in. Will impact school - Within 3 months Julie Brinkerhoff asked - Will they build new school? Will they re-align boundaries? Dr Higgins doesn't anticipate that. 4000 homes by Micron - in our boundary. District decision.*

10. Community involvement – Kari Tuttle

i) *Room mom tea went well. Could be more organized.*

ii) *Bdays – notebooks – stack nicely and reduced budget. Labelled.*

iii) *SEP dinners – under control. Google doc going out for volunteers.*

11. Education – Lynsie Smith

i) *THR not begun underway yet but in progress.*

12. Special guest 10.15am – Peekaboo Yearbooks.

Presentation – New to Utah. Can personalize back of yearbook for each child back four pages. On-line web app. Create year book. Interactive. Build book on line. Order on line from web address. No money into school money goes direct to company. Can use it as a fundraiser. Pricing depends on amount of pages use. Basic pricing – both same price. \$8.49 then 22c a page extra. But will discount. Can see a free one on line that can put on device. Digital ebook. Have choice between hard cover and soft cover. Can charge for e-version. Then company will take some. Question: Do you work with school photographer? We help you stream the photos in. School in control of how look. Parents like hardcovers, will pay whatever for it.

13. Family Life – Kelly Koch

i) Grandparents day- Aimee Hudak

ii) Dads and donuts – dates by grade are not clear. Follow up. Using Riddleys but price match.

14. Health and safety

i) buses – amazing job by Aimee Hudak and Jana Moorehouse. Trying to get PTA less involved – Suncrest community getting more involved. Committee of Suncrest parents have taken it over. **Discussion of whose responsibility it should be.** District not stepping up as much as we want. Draper City unwilling. Parents can put pressure on city. Dr Higgins - ongoing problem. Improving. HOA can get involved in bus stop location.

ii) Screenings – Sep 17. May need PTA helpers as not many volunteers.

15. Individual development – Alicia Dahl

i) Reflections kick off – 11-1pm grades come to kivas. Might need to switch day. Schedule with Dr Higgins later. Per grade all in same day rather than big assembly.

16. Fundraising – Heather Crowder

i) Lunch with Principal- \$386 last year.

ii) not enough classroom sponsors. Was a blurb in newsletter yesterday.

iii) Box tops – need to follow up on info. Do several times a year rather than every month. Do a special drive one month to push it.

17. Adjourned:11.07

18. Date of next meeting: October 3, 9.30am

Minutes accepted:

Minutes signed for by name

(Title)