

RIDGE H.S.A. INC.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MEETING DATE: May 15, 2018 at 1:15 pm
TEACHER'S LOUNGE

BOARD MEMBERS: Albano, Alvarado, Ardito, Beck, Bender, Beiersdorf, Bosch, Briganti, Brinkmann, Chudy, Coviello, Cox, Daffron, DeMeulder, Doerfel, Fiol, Flynn, Gaglioti, Geller, Ginn, Harrington, Harris, Holder, Hong, Hutchinson, Kahn, Karas, Katzman, Killeen, Kong, Langheim, Latimer, Linnington, McCarthy, Micale, Monte, Neumann, Nixon, Noel, O'Keefe, Patrawala, Perrin, Pilchik, Rosenberg, Rottinger, Rozenberg, Rubenstein, Rubine, Sharma, Sorabella, Stephens, Sturfels, Sullivan, Tudda, Turner, Twilliger, Wallace, Williams, Zachariah

PRESENT: Hutchinson, Fiol, Langheim, Wallace, Kahn, Perrin, Twilliger, Briganti, Kong, Rottinger, Daffron, Cox

ABSENT BUT VOTING: Alvarado, Katzman, Flynn, Linnington, Holder, Zachariah, Rozenberg, Ginn, Rubenstein, Chudy, Coviello, Micale, Neumann, Latimer, Pilchik, Nixon, Beiersdorf, Kong, Williams, Harrington, Sharma, Hong, Patrawala

Motion:

1. **A motion was made, seconded and approved by those present to approve the Minutes from the March 13, 2018 Ridge H.S.A. meeting.**
2. **A motion was made, seconded and approved by those present to approve the Balance Sheet as of May 14, 2018 and the 2017/2018 Year-To-Date Profit & Loss Statement.**

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

Maria Hutchinson

Maria Hutchinson, H.S.A. President, welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 1:20 pm.

Principal's Report

Dr. Jean Schoenlank

Thank You to Outgoing Board

Jean thanked the outgoing board for all the work that they have done this year. She was very appreciative.

Friends of Ridge (FOR) Campaign

Jean also thanked everyone for their donations to the FOR campaign. Because of our community's generosity, we are able to provide the upcoming programs for our children:

Beekeeper for the 3rd grade, Encampment for 5th grade, Pond dabbler coming up for 1st grade, Tenafly Nature Center for 4th grade.

Bill Ward Fund

Through Enews, we are sending out a document asking for contributions for the Bill Ward Discretionary Fund, a fund to help Ridge families in need. The committee for approval of fund dollars consists of Dr. Jean Schoenlank, Heather Zachariah (former HSA President), Dana Higgins, and Donna Pedersen.

May Book of the Month

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble. This book reminds us to be grateful for what we have.

June Book of the Month

Reflections. This book reminds us to reflect on our wonderful year at Ridge.

Staff Changes for 2018-2019

Jean has made the following staff changes which will go out in Enews:

- Nicole Dorn is moving to Kindergarten.
- Lynn Peabody is moving to 1st grade.
- Mary LeBlanq will be teaching 4th grade.

There will be 4 sections in both Kindergarten and 1st grade; There will be 3 sections in grades 2, 3, 4, and 5.

Threshold numbers for each grade:

22 children for grades K and 1

24 children for grade 2

25 children for grades 3, 4, and 5.

Questions from the audience to Jean:

1. How do you adjust if we have more kids than the threshold for a grade?

Jean: We might have to open up another classroom. Regarding class size, Jean noted that our teachers are talented, and they can adjust to the fluctuating number of kids. It is the teacher that matters more than the class size. Jean tries to spread out the teacher assistants among the classes, but they are really there to help certain children. Jean tries to be as thoughtful as possible to make the classroom equitable.

2. Are other schools as tight as we are?

Jean: Orchard has same guidelines. Their threshold is over 50. As soon as they hit 52 children, they get a third section.

3. Could we rezone based on numbers since Orchard is so small?

Jean: This is a question that parents need to ask the Board of Education.

Willard is the biggest school; Ridge is the second biggest. We have 450 students this year.

Every child who attends Ridge will count towards our numbers. Most of our kids are mainstreamed.

President's Report

Maria Hutchinson

Maria announced the upcoming Board for year 2018-2019:

President - Hilary Wallace
VP - Barbara Dowling
Treasurer - Amy Kahn
Assistant Treasurer - Tasneem Patrawala
Secretary - Shulamit Gershenson
Volunteer Coordinator - Amanda Twilliger
Planning and Development – Kerri Pilchik

Important Dates

May

5/24-5/25 5th Grade Encampment

5/28 School Closed

June

6/2 Carnival 12-5 pm (Rain Date 6/3)

6/7 Celebration of the Arts 7 pm; Concert 7:15; Swearing in of 2018-2019 board

6/12 Summer Book Fair

6/12 HSA Meeting 1:15 pm

6/15 Field Day

6/18 Rain Date for Field Day

6/20 5th Grade Final Assembly 9 am

6/20 Step-up Day 10:30 am and Early Dismissal at 12:45 pm. Second annual clap-out

Carnival Day

If you can help out with Carnival Day, we appreciate any help. Maria will send out an email explaining how you can sign up.

Vice President's Report

Hilary Wallace

Enrichment Update

Beekeeper - 3rd grade, TBD

Meet the Musicians - May 21

Encampment – 5th grade, May 24 and 25

Pond Dabblers - 1st grade, June 7

Tenafly Nature Center - 4th Grade, June 7

Friends of Ridge Campaign

Current Donation amount is \$15,500

Carnival Update

If anyone has a business and would like to donate a raffle basket for the carnival, please contact Maria or Hilary.

Secretary's Report

Alyssa Fiol

Motion - A motion was made, seconded and approved by those present to approve the Minutes from the March 13, 2018 Ridge H.S.A. meeting.

- Motion was approved by Hilary Wallace and seconded by Tara Briganti.

Update

Alyssa read the following thank you notes:

- Jean thanked the HSA for making Teacher Appreciation Week so special.
- The Ridge Staff thanked the HSA for the wonderful luncheon in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week.
- Jill Marmo and Andrea Petrone thanked the HSA for the Ridge shirts.
- Kristen Plumley thanked the HSA for the generous contribution to the Friends of Music Program.
- The Fifth graders thanked the Environmental Day Team: Kristin Daffron, Christin Williams and Monika Cox for the inspiring and fun environmental programs that they organized.

Treasurer's Report

Tara Briganti

A motion was made, seconded and approved by those present to approve the Balance Sheet as of May 14, 2018, and the 2017/2018 Year-to-date Profit & Loss Statement.

- Motion was approved by Amy Kahn and seconded by Alyssa Fiol.

Financial Statement Update

- We received \$1200 in parent donations for the book gifting program.
- We did not make much revenue this year for the Notecard fundraiser so we will decide on whether we will continue with this program.
- We have received some information about classroom grants, but we would like Jean to remind teachers to let us know what they need as soon as possible.
- Maria sent in the waiver for the 4th of July Parade float.
- We are currently working on the budget for the upcoming year.
- We never received the zipline invoices.

Planning and Development's Report

Alina Albano

Update

- Alina is working on raffle baskets. She has a meeting tomorrow to put it all together.

Volunteer Coordinator's Report

Caren Langheim

Update

- Kristin Daffron and Alina Albano will be working on the environmental initiative next year.
- Garden Update: 5th graders will plant a vegetable garden; the children will plant seedlings on Thursday. TLC will replace a dead tree that was installed as part of our Beautification Project; there will be no cost. One vision that we have for the garden is to install a mosaic bench and mosaic table.
- Field Day is June 15th. We need water, ice and ice pops.
- Caren is looking for a new team for our Back-to-School Picnic for next year. They can co-lead with this year's team. Contact Caren if you'd like to get involved.

Other

Caroline Perrin - TICTOC

- Willard and Ridge are interested in a Poetry Slam. Jean would love to do it in February. This would be for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades.

Stacey Jacobs – Reading Marathon Results

Stacey thanked HSA representative, Julia Bender and Dr. Schoenlank for their support with the Reading Marathon Program. Stacey asked the Board and attendees about the changes to the Reading Marathon and why it didn't work this year. This year the marathon brought in a low number of donations.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alyssa Fiol

Ridge H.S.A. Secretary

NEXT HSA MEETING is Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at 1:15 pm in the Teacher's Lounge.