

RILEY UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PTA General Membership
Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2018

1. Call to Order at 6:34pm
2. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees:

Sandy Kopucko	Jen Bjertness
Kristyn S. Cousino	Sherry Mazzoni
Katie Bates	Gordon Mehelich
Hassan Sobh	Robb Drzewicki
Kellie Dummer	Jennifer McGruther
Leslie Hinkle	Lori Sosnowski
Todd Davis	Stephanie Christie
Nicole Dant	Madeline Acosta
Jen Pritula	

Board Members

- a. President – **Todd Davis**
 - b. Vice Presidents – **Lori Sosnowski & Stephanie Christie**
 - c. Recording Secretary- **Madeline Acosta**
 - d. Corresponding Secretary- **Tracy Lang** (interim)
 - e. Treasurer – **Nicole Dant**
3. Principal's Report- **Kristyn Cousino**
 - It's Spirit Week this week and students are bringing in canned goods to participate.
 - The Riley Variety Show will take place on November 29th at 6pm. Ms. Sato and Ms. Torrento are spearheading the tryouts for both 5th and 6th grade. All are welcome to attend, even if your student is not participating.
 - On December 12th, the 5th grade will participate in a Native American assembly. In preparation for the assembly, students will have a chance to examine an artifact beforehand.
 - In January, Mrs. Moorton has scheduled a visit to the DIA for all 6th graders and is working on getting all 5th graders to attend as well.
 - January is also Math Month. There is always a lot of focus on Reading, but we would like to also focus on problem-solving skills. During the last staff PD, everyone was made aware of how much students are lacking in this area. Students may be asked to do some extra math at night.
 - In February we are planning a "Small World" event where we will highlight various cultures through food. This event is still being developed and will require additional volunteers.
 - March is Reading Month. We will be hosting our annual Pizza, Pop, and Paperbacks event.
 - On November 26th all 6th graders will receive the CogAt test.
 - The second window for IReady will be from December 10th until our holiday break begins.
 4. Teacher's Report- No report
 5. PTSA Council Report – **Kellie Dummer**
 - The PTSA Council will be hosting its 5th Annual PTA Dads Chili Cook-off on January 19th at Franklin High School. The entry fee is only \$10 per chili, with a potential of winning \$500 for the best chili. More information is available at www.livoniaptscouncil.org

- Founders Day is February 13th. PTAs will nominate 1 parent and 1 staff member that exemplifies all that the PTA stands for. These awardees will be recognized on that day.
6. Budget Report – **Nicole Dant**
 - Budget is attached for review.
 - We received money from the following events: Bake Sale, Popcorn Sales, and Mixed Bag Fundraiser. The numbers are not final on the latter two since the Popcorn Sales is ongoing and the Mixed Bag Fundraiser is still open online.
 7. Committee Reports
 - a. Fall Festival/Trunk-or-Treat – Todd Davis

There was a good turnout and kids seemed to be having fun while eating hot dogs, cider, and donuts. There were some good donations for candy, a live band, and the community did a great job decorating their cars for the Trunk-or-Treat. Overall it was a great night!
 - b. Membership: Jen McPherson, Nicole Dant, Todd Davis

Based on our Member Hub account, we have 157 members (not including the membership payment submitted at today’s PTA meeting).
 - c. Welcome Table: Todd Davis
 - d. Box Tops: **Todd Davis (reporting for Cathy Miner)**

We received a total of 18,447 box tops! The top 2 classes with the most Box Top submissions were Ms. Daily and Ms. Butler. Congratulations on a job well done!
 - e. Mixed bag fundraiser: **Lori Sosnowski**

The paper orders are no longer being accepted, but anyone can submit orders online. We are on target with our expected funds from this fundraiser.
 - f. Roller Skating –**Nicole Dant**

Our first roller skating night will be on November 28th. Flyers will be going home this week.
 - g. Birthday Boards: Cathy Miner
 - h. Reflections: Cathy Miner
 - This year’s theme for the 50th anniversary is “Heroes Among Us”
 - i. Restaurant/Dine-outs: **Todd Davis**

We are looking for someone to Chair this great fundraiser. Some suggestions for establishments to partner with are: Culvers, MOD pizza, Buffalo Wild Wings, and Grand Tavern (where we have an account set up for patrons to share a code to grant a percentage of the food sale to the Riley PTA. Robb Drzewicki offered to inquire about the code.) Katie Bates volunteered to be our Chair. Mr. Mehelich suggested that we reach out to the local movie theatres for their support as well.
 - j. Directory – **Nicole Dant**

The directories went out a few weeks ago. The new format was well received.
 - k. Holiday Shop – **Todd Davis**

Be on the lookout for a Signup Genius requesting volunteers to help with cashing students out, wrapping gifts, and shopping. Anyone interested in decorating the space to make it look festive, please let us know. Shopping will be available December 10th-14th: Monday through Thursday, as scheduled by teacher, and Friday will be open for students to shop as inventory is taken.
 - l. Project: Makers Space – **Ms. Shaw, Ms. Schembara, Ms. Nolan, and Ms. Springer (Todd reported in their absence)**

Still awaiting district approval for use of space. Once approval is granted, donations will be needed, as well as a schedule for its use. It was suggested to create a Wishlist through Amazon or an event on Donors Choose so that the community knows how to best provide what is needed.
 - m. Youth Making a Difference – **Todd Davis**

Mrs. Moorton wants to make handmade holiday cards with all the 5th graders (~550). Students are also making Thank You notes to accompany crates that will be delivered to those in need.

There is an opportunity on December 3rd to volunteer at the Dickinson Center with sorting all the canned goods that are being donated. Both activities will allow for a certificate of community service.

8. Corresponding Secretary position – **Lori Sosnowski moved to nominate Katie Bates for the Corresponding Secretary position. Stephanie Christie seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion approved.**
9. Science Alive – Kristyn Cousino
We are looking to bring the Science Alive program to our Riley students. Some logistical things must get worked out first before the PTA can vote on funding this program.
10. Upcoming Events
 - Ongoing PTA Membership Drive
 - Popcorn Fridays – 12/7, 1/11, 2/8, 3/1, 4/26, 5/10
 - Thanksgiving Break – NO SCHOOL – 11/21-11/23
 - Riley Variety Show – 11/29 at 6pm
 - Teacher Work Day – NO SCHOOL – 11/30
 - Riley Mother/Daughter Night – 12/6
 - Holiday Shop – 12/10-12/14
 - Holiday Break – 12/24 – 1/4
11. Comments/Questions
 - Jen Bjertness inquired about the possibility of moving the Holiday Shop back to the Community Room to provide more space for the event.
 - Jen Pritula inquired about the use of Riley for a Girl Scout Troop fundraising event. Mrs. Cousino to follow up with her.
12. Next Meeting scheduled for December 11th at 9:30am
13. Meeting adjourned at 7:39pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Madeline Acosta