

# Richland Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2019

## Attendees:

Gene Nicastro	Crissa Jones	Diane White	Chrissy Wall
Amy Tannert	Sara Hurwitz	Sarah Ball	Jeanne Nindl
Kristy Ryer	Rene Hoy	Meredith Miller Mestre	Adrienne Griffin
Stephanie Deible	Marcia Sudo		

### I. Call to Order

- Opening Statement- Amy Tannert
- Introduction of Executive Board Members
- May 1, 2019 minutes approved by Crissa Jones and Sara Hurwitz

### II. Principal's Update- Dr. Gene Nicastro

- Purpose of PTO Meetings
  - Many benefits to being involved in PTO
  - Allows parents to be involved as much or as little as they'd like
    1. Committee Chairs for those who have time to be involved
    2. Behind the Scenes allow parents to volunteer as they are available
- RAMS WAY Introduction
  - K-12 consistent approach across the district to reward positive behavior
    1. R- Respectful
    2. A- Accountable
    3. M- Motivated
    4. S- Safe
  - Signs throughout the building
  - Working on reward and positive recognition system
    1. Rewards may vary but expectations are the same
  - RAMS WAY video was presented to students
  - RAMS WAY color changing bracelets were distributed to all students
  - Students can earn tokens and postcards will be mailed home to students who receive this recognition
  - Significant changes have already been seen in the hallways and restrooms

### III. Old Business

- The PTO had a Pergola put up last May in the playground area
- Spirit Wear sale ended and items will arrive in 3-4 weeks
- Kidstuff Coupon Book orders are due this Friday
- Summer Reading optional projects are due this Friday 9/13
- Directories were sent to printer and should be finished and distributed by end of next week
- Microphone Systems
  - PTO purchased 10 classroom Juno systems
  - Plan to ask PROF to help us purchase the remainder so that all teachers may have one
  - Mr. Hackworth provided his perspective on use of the Juno System

1. Beneficial tool
  2. Simple to use
  3. Picks up his voice and amplifies
  4. More opportunities for the students to be engaged both in hearing and receiving the instructions
  5. Also allows students to speak and share with classmates
- End of Year Financials
    - Brief update given by Rene Hoy (Treasurer)

#### **IV. New Business**

- Next week is Spirit Week for Homecoming
  - Each day will have a new theme
    - Monday- Pittsburgh Day (Wear your Black and Gold)
    - Tuesday- Tie-Dye Day
    - Wednesday- Your Future is Bright (Wear Neon)
    - Thursday- Lights! Camera! Action! (Superhero Day)
    - Friday- Hometown Pride (Green & White)
  - Themes will also be announced in the flash on Friday
- Yankee Candle Fundraiser starts at the end of this month
  - Fundraisers help with things that will benefit the entire school
  - Pickup will be during the Ice Cream Social
    1. Hoping to change this fundraiser next year so that items can be picked up outside the classroom during parent-teacher conferences.
- Box Tops for Education
  - Going digital this year
  - Parents must download app and scan their receipts
  - Items that still have the clipped label may also be scanned to receive double credit
  - Clipped labels will still be collected this year
  - Will be a school-wide prize if goal is met
- After-School Programs
  - Will run on Tuesdays in October
  - Mad Science and Izabella Gourmet Chow will be offered
  - Jeanne Nindl (After-School Program Chairperson) provided info on many of the programs that have been done previously, as well as an update on some new ideas for the future
- Ram Run is Sunday October 6, 2019
  - A link to register will be available in the Friday Flash
  - A portion of the donations will go to Richland Elementary
- Friday Flash
  - A great way to find available volunteer opportunities
  - Info on upcoming events
- Assemblies
  - Aviary, Carnegie Science Center, Chris Johnson scheduled
  - Globetrotters is in the works, but not finalized

#### **V. Adjourn**

- Thank you for joining us today. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting in November!

