

RIDGEWOOD ELEMENTARY PTA
GENERAL MEETING
Thursday, November 17, 2011
Ridgewood Elementary Multi-Purpose Room

Minutes

- Welcome** The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm. Kelly Grunewald welcomed and led all attending in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Review of Minutes** Minutes from the October 2011 Board meeting were reviewed. Accepted as written.
- Treasurer's Report** Nancy Wing went over income and expenses.
- Principal's Report** Enrollment is steady 565. Discussed the possibility of school closures due to budget shortfall of \$1.4 billion. Kent School District is unsure of what that will mean for the district. But reassured all attending that there will be minimal impact to the school. As of now, nothing has been decided.
- Committee Reports:**
- JA/BizTown School is 3 teachers away from 100% participation. Kelly Grunewald will take over for Mrs. Frey's duties. Teachers need more info before they will know if they will need training.
- Bake Sale Scheduled for 12/16 (Friday) 9AM-3PM.
- Membership Membership is at 232, still aiming for 100% involvement. Would like to include PTA \$ at Work in the Newsletter.
- Reflections Entries are due 11/18 Before or After school.
- Carnival Scheduled for May 18th, 5PM-9PM. The Carnival committee plans on having the following: Dunk Tank, Silent Auction (class projects), Photobooth, BBQ, Carnival Food, Cake Walk. 5th Graders are welcome to fundraise for camp. Hopes to have event outdoors, weather permitting. Looking for more parent and student volunteers.
- Yearbook Steady sales, on pace with last year. Followed up with Lifetouch rep. only yearbook chairs have access to online upload gallery. Will look into adding Mr. Song to account for viewing.
- Book Fair Doing well. Read aloud with Mr. Song schedule for 11/18 and needs volunteer for special guest appearance.
- Art Program The Art Docent Program has volunteers for each grade level. Volunteers will be contacting teachers shortly. Discussed possibility of training through Green River in January. Funded by PTA Art Fund. Artsonia will remain open, but no new artwork will be added. Square1 Art will begin in January.
- Clothing Bank Needs clothes desperately! New socks and underwear are in high demand, but any type of clothing would be appreciated. Clothing Drive will run through Dec. 1.

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School Beautification Student Council planted tulips and daffodils. Thinking about planning a vegetable/herb garden.

**Follow Up
Business**

AR Ice Cream Party Spring Book Fair \$ will be used to fund party. A.R. funding is already paid for this year.

PTA Check
Uncleared Nancy reissued some and the rest were cleared.

Donorschoose.org 1st project from Ridgewood has been posted and has been fully funded. Teachers have found that the process is not as easy as it appears to be. More teachers are in the process of submitting projects.

New Business

PTA Safe PTA needs a safe place to hold \$ after events. The Board plans on purchasing a safe (\$200-). Code will change with each EC switch. Kelly will bring documentation to next meeting.

Community
Outreach Heidi Marsh presented a new idea for the community outreach program in the hopes to get more students+families involved in their community. The idea is akin to a Science Fair. Students will research a cause, do a report, present it, and do some sort of service component. iCare Fair. Mr. Song gave his input. Suggesting taking smaller steps to start out, starting out with an after school club. Worried about the liability issues with the service aspect. Heidi will share this during the next staff meeting.

Welcoming
Committee Brittainie is chairing the Welcoming Committee. The committee will provide a 'Welcome Packet'. The packet will include forms for new families, PTA information. These packets will be available at Kindergarten Round-Up.

Science Room Ridgewood has funds from last year's auction. The Science Room will be located in the Book Room, on a designated shelf. The goal is to build enthusiasm for science. Science Room will have items to help kids with their science fair projects. Inventory is currently being taken to find out what supplies are needed. Part of the funding will go to staff development. A suggestion was made that the Science Program be modeled after the Art Program – a docent program. Materials and training needs to be figured out by December 1st. Another suggestion was made that Science also become an outreach/after school program.

Parent Fun Night The idea of a Parent Fun Night was brought up. Bunco, Poker Night, Bingo, PTA Meeting Fun. Brittainie and Katrina will report on ideas on Dec. 1st.

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Adjournment Meeting was adjourned about 8:56pm.

Minutes taken by Andrea Victoria