**Ridgeview Elementary PTA**

**General Meeting**

**November 9, 2017**

Call to order: 4:02 pm

**In attendance:**

Melynee Finch

Kim Moore

Michelle Wojciechowski

Sarah Beth Patterson

Susan Angier

Julie Nealy

Kim O’Connor

Jason Alvarado

Erin Tackitt

Shawna Ricks

Melissa Chaffin

Jessica Orinak

Jennifer Chamberlain

**Veronica Leitner: Boy Scouts**

Veronica did not attend the meeting. She submitted the following written comments:

The RVES PTA is the Chartering Organization for the local Cub Scout Pack, 226. Because of this the Pack felt it appropriate to brief the group on the fact that the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) is going to start allowing girls to join. The BSA issued the following:

"The historic decision comes after years of receiving requests from families and girls," Boy Scouts of America said in a statement. The group said it considered input from current members and leaders before making the decision. BSA said the expansion is also aimed at helping busy families consolidate programs for their children. "Families today are busier and more diverse than ever. Most are dual-earners and there are more single-parent households than ever before, making convenient programs that serve the whole family more appealing," the BSA statement said.

The BSA is going to allow packs to make their own decision about how to incorporate girls. The board for Pack 226 has not met yet to discuss how they plan to incorporate girls but they will announce their plan as soon as they have finalized it.

**Shawna Ricks: Spiritwear**

The current quote for hoodies/sweat pants is high ($20+). Shawna Ricks, Spiritwear Coordinator, is looking for a better price.

We will only take preorders for this sale because of the cost. We will ask parents to send in the money and if the price adjusts down, we will offer them the chance to either donate the excess or get it back.

If we get enough orders, we will price adjust down as much as we can. We are not looking at spiritwear as a fundraiser… we want it to create community

Preorder forms for hoodies and sweatpants will go home the week of 11/13

Teachers can order any time.

The two styles we’re looking at:

1. Women’s cowl neck
2. Regular pullover hoodie

We will be using the Peace/Love/Husky design.

Shawna will ask if there is a sweatpants with pockets option

We are trying to stay local.

**Melynee Finch and yearbook co-chair Martha Bundrick: Yearbook, Reflections**

Preschoolers ARE in the yearbook.

Yearbook preorder forms went home: $20 per book until 12/31. January 1st price increases to $25 and package prices increase by $5. We had to commit to a certain number of books to get this price.

We will be having a Yearbook Cover Contest. The deadline for submission is December 14, the last day of the semester.

The Reflections deadline was November 8. There were only five entries turned in.

The deadline was extended to Monday, November 13th in the hopes students will complete projects over the weekend

Kati will have more details on judging, etc. once she has gathered all the entries

Martha Bundrick, Treasurer, made a motion that we approve a Reflections budget of $300. Motion passed.

Melynee Finch, President, asked that teachers send us feedback on Reflections--What could we have done better, etc. Mrs. Chaffin suggested having a video next year and include examples of past winning entries [update: there was a video on the Ridgeview Elementary site].

**Martha Bundrick: Budget and Box Tops**

Box Tops are not doing as well this year as last year.

We have a traveling trophy and we have the sticker sheet from last year.

Martha distributed an updated budget. See attached.

Mrs. Chaffin said thank you for the stipends.

**Melynee Finch: Membership, Strong Hearts, and October, November, December Reports and Events**

Membership Drive Winners: Chaffin w 5 parents and White w 4 parents. Prizes have already been purchased. Winning staff member will also get a prize.

Total Membership sits at 88 (75 in)

--51 parents/community, 14 male (23 males in 2016)

--37 faculty/staff (49 in 2016)

October: Trunk or Treat

--2,163 pieces of candy plus 43 lbs plus car donations

--Lots of positive feedback from the parents and community

We will create a line item in the budget for this event next year.

Need to figure out a positive way to end the event when we run out of candy.

PTA member suggested we have a membership table at the Trunk or Treat event next year and consider charging a small amount.

Member also suggested that we make events such as this free to PTA members only

**November: Popcorn Friday, Holiday Shop flyers go home**

Popcorn Friday, November 17[update: rescheduled to Dec 1]

Teachers were asked to please return popcorn baskets to the lounge at the end of each Popcorn Friday. We are going to purchase new baskets.

In the future, unless a child is tardy to school, we will not accept popcorn money after 9:00am.

Teachers requested that forms be in boxes by Wednesday on Popcorn Friday weeks. Erin Tackitt will let Jenny Debelak, Popcorn Coordinator, know.

Holiday Shop

Preview flyers go home the week of November 27. We are only allowing kids with money to go to the store.

The shop will be set up in the front hallway each day and in the gym on Santa night. Mrs. Chaffin suggested that we consider letting teachers who use the front hallway for kids’ bathroom breaks to use a different bathroom during the holiday shop week.

The store will be open December 4-7 from 9:00am to 10:30 and then 1:30 to 3:00pm. We are thinking that prek-2 can shop any time in the morning sessions. Grades 3-5 can shop in the afternoon sessions. Pre-K afternoon classes – we will make an exception.

There will not be a signup. Teachers can work with their teams on how best to send kids each day. They must have an adult with them.

Santa in Candyland is December 7.

We would love to have StuCo and ES2S kids volunteer that evening! Mrs. Chaffin said she will ask her kids soon. [Update: ES2S will provide several kids that evening.]

Doors will open into the gym for the choir concert at 5:45

Doors will open into the school for the event immediately after the choir concert -- 6:00 or so

Santa pics will be taken for $5 ($10 for 5x7)… printed and delivered to the students before the holidays

We will have cookies and cocoa, the Candyland Trek, games, themed rooms, the holiday shop, Santa, and the Cool Science Guy

Teachers will get much more detailed information after Thanksgiving

**Upcoming dates:**

Strong Hearts kids will be recognized December 14th.

Skate City is December 12 from 6-8pm

PTA COOKIE EXCHANGE FOR FACULTY AND STAFF is December 15

**Meeting adjourned 5:00 pm.**