



SYCAMORE RIDGE

PTA Meeting 11/13/2025

Attendance: Sesilie Bascombe, Kathy O'Neil, Kate Kim, Sara Lake, Bianca Plotkin, Jody Folk, Britta Loesel, Prya Merrill, Ana Pons

Location: Sycamore Elementary School

Conflict of Interest & Antitrust Avoidance Affirmation: All attendees affirmed that they are not engaging in any conflicts of interest or activities violating antitrust regulations.

Welcome/Call to Order:

- Kate called the meeting to order at 9:21 a.m. and welcomed attendees.

Approvals:

- **October Minutes** – Motion to approve by Kate; seconded by Bianca and Jody. *All in favor.*
- **Checks #3746-3767** – Motion to approve by Sara and Jody. *All in favor.*
- **Treasurer Report (October)** – Motion to approve by Priya and Britta. *All in favor.*
 - **Corporate Matching**
 - Corporate matching deposits have been received.
 - **Book Fair Classification**
 - The Book Fair is **not a fundraiser**; PTA serves as the avenue to host and facilitate the fair.
 - **Staff Jerseys**
 - PTA purchased jerseys for staff this year.
 - Decision: PTA **will not continue** purchasing staff jerseys in the future due to budget constraints.

Committee & Program Reports

- **Annual Giving Campaign**
 - **Principal for a Day**
 - The prize will be scheduled for the **morning** instead of a full day.
 - There will be flexibility to do several different activities with the student winner.

- **Drama Club**
 - Financials:
 - The program is expected to **break even or come in slightly under**.

 - Partnership:
 - PTA partnered with **JoJo Productions**.
 - JoJo shared costumes, and PTA hired their staff for the production.

 - Performances:
 - All **three performances sold out**.

 - Show Video:
 - The video quality this year is **not as strong** as in prior years.
 - Discussion on whether to:
 - Sell the video as usual, or
 - Provide it as a **gift** instead.
 - No final decision recorded.

 - Cast/Crew Celebration:
 - There will be a **cast and crew party** to watch the video together.

 - MUR Projector, District Coordination & PTA funds:
 - At this point, the production team should have clarity on **total production costs**, which will inform how much can be allocated toward a **projector upgrade**.
 - It is anticipated that there will **not** be leftover funds from Drama Club, and PTA may need to begin tapping into **reserves**.
 - PTA has requested multiple times that the district conduct an **annual walkthrough** with the principal and PTA to understand better facility needs.
 - An updated projector would support:
 - Glow Dance
 - Drama productions
 - Assemblies
 - Movie Night and other school events.

- **Book Fair Review**

- Vendor:
 - Overall, the team prefers Scholastic over other options used in the past.
- Scholastic Dollars / Credits:
 - Next year, the school will not receive the same volume of books as this year.
 - Expected to receive a little more than half of what was received this year.
- Volunteer & Leadership Needs:
 - Jen shared that the schedule was very demanding, and she is unsure if she can run it again without additional help.
- Britta offered to help.
- PTA needs a committee chair (or co-chairs) for next year's Book Fair.

- **Movie Night - December 5th**

- Movie Selection:
 - The movie will be Zootopia, aligning with the release of Zootopia 2 around Thanksgiving.
- Location & Time:
 - Event to be held in the MUR.
 - Time: 5:00–8:00 p.m.
 - Movie starts at approximately 5:30 p.m.
- Raffle & Donations:
 - Discussion about holding a raffle.
 - PTA will think about a donation for this year.
- Dad Involvement:
 - Idea to have a Dad's Club help organize future movie nights.

- **Spirit Wear & SWAG for 2026–2027**

- Budget Timing:
 - PTA cannot pay any invoices before July 1st, and needs to wait until next year's budget cycle.

- **SWAG Plan**

- This year's SWAG was well received.
- For next year, PTA may consider using Alibaba or similar vendors again to keep costs reasonable.

- **PTA Survey**

- The survey is ready and expected to be sent out by tomorrow.

- The survey will remain open through Thanksgiving break to maximize response rates.
- **Reflections Art Program**
 - Winners were announced this week.
 - PTA would like to:
 - Include winners' names in the newsletter, and
 - Celebrate that over 20 students participated.
 - Next Year's Format:
 - PTA will not use the digital submissions process next year because it is too complex and time-consuming to manage.
 - Many schools have stopped participating due to these logistical challenges.
 - Ann will chair the program next year and is already learning the process, which should help improve efficiencies.
- **Parent Technology Assembly**
 - Andrea Mann has offered a technology-focused presentation for parents (e.g., on screens/technology use).
 - Estimated cost is around \$400.
 - She has offered to facilitate a discussion with parents after the main presentation.
 - Next Steps:
 - The PTA survey may include a question asking parents what time of day works best for this type of event.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:20 a.m.

The next PTA Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 11, at 9:15 AM at Sycamore Ridge.

Ana Pons

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