



SYCAMORE RIDGE

PTA Meeting 12/03/2025

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

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 9:26 a.m. and welcomed attendees.

Treasure Report and Approvals:

- **Approval of Checks #3794–3800** - Motion made by Kathy, seconded by Bianca. All in favor.
- **Approval of February Treasurer's Report** - Motion made by Sara, seconded by Britta. All in favor.
- **Motion to approve the February PTA Meeting Minutes made by Sara** - Motion made by Ana, seconded by Bianca. All in favor.

Committee & Program Reports

- **Board Slate and Nominating Committee**
 - Two new members were introduced: **Elham Zamanidoost** and **Nikol Varvaresou**.
 - The slate will be presented for approval at the April General Association Meeting.
 - Kate will print the script to read at the meeting.

- **Staff Appreciation Week**
 - Parents were asked to bring snacks instead of salads, which worked very well and made coordination easier.
 - The overall schedule was successful and ran smoothly.
 - The week stayed within budget, with a good mix of splurge and budget-friendly options.
 - Providing fruit worked especially well and was more cost-effective than purchasing pre-made fruit salads.
- **World Festival – March 26**
 - Priya and Sara are coordinating the event.
 - Masumi Parekh will lead a K-pop Demon Hunters dance class.
 - The assembly will feature a drum group, which is scheduled to come on the day after Spring Break and the day after Easter.
 - The country boards will be displayed on the stage of the MUR behind the curtains for a week(3/16-3/20) and will be open Friday 3/20 for everyone to work on during school hours.
 - Kate has already communicated with Priya, and Priya will communicate with families so they know when to come to work on their board countries if needed.
- **Spring Carnival – April 26**
 - Lara is coordinating the event, is doing a great job, and needs extra help.
 - The committee is a bit behind in securing donations/staffing for the baskets.
 - It would be very helpful if each board member could help secure five businesses to contribute.
 - Lara will do a walk-through next Wednesday morning, March 18, to collect from different businesses.
 - The updated Google Sheet with potential businesses to reach out to is available for everyone involved to review.
- **Assemblies**
 - The PTA will support assemblies for Red Ribbon Week, the World Festival, and other PTA-sponsored events.
 - The board discussed the need to think ahead for next year's Red Ribbon assembly.
 - Kate recommended considering a science assembly every couple of years.
- **Drama Club**
 - Sara requested PTA funding for wearable microphones for Drama Club.
 - She received a quote of \$6,000 for four microphones.
 - Scott Tanaka had offered to sell microphones at a lower cost, but they were on a different frequency, and compatibility was unclear.
 - The PTA discussed the proposed \$6,000 expenditure for microphones and expressed support for potentially moving forward with the purchase.
 - Sara spoke with Lex Bezdeka, who is interested in doing Drama Club again.
 - Brian is expecting a baby in September, so it is unclear whether he will be available.

- The group discussed procedures for addressing student misbehavior during the next drama performance, including who would be responsible for handling it.
- Lex suggested possible productions including:
 - Trolls
 - Alice in Wonderland
 - SpongeBob
 - Descendants: The Musical
 - James and the Giant Peach
- The top PTA choices are Trolls and Descendants: The Musical.
- Britta suggested moving full-cast rehearsals from Mondays to Wednesdays, as Wednesdays are short days and may be more convenient for both students and parents.
- **Book Fair**
 - Teachers liked holding the Book Fair during conference week.
 - The board discussed moving the Book Fair from Fall to Spring PTC week so it does not overlap with Drama Club.
 - This could allow the final days of Drama Club to take place on short days.
 - Britta expressed interest in taking a more active role in supporting the Book Fair.
 - The board agreed to connect with Jennifer Good to see how others might best assist.
- **Mini Grants / Staff Support**
 - Kate shared that Jenny Peirson, Principal, noted administrative mini-grants had been used prior to her arrival and asked whether additional funds could be made available for staff support. The PTA agreed that additional funds could be allocated for that purpose.
- **Outdoor Furniture / MUR Funds**
 - Jenny is working with the district to purchase **outdoor furniture** using some of the PTA money that had originally been intended for the **MUR**.
 - **Kate** asked that these funds please be spent **within this school calendar year**.

The next PTA Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 12, at 10:48 AM at Sycamore Ridge.

Ana Pons

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