



SYCAMORE RIDGE

PTA Meeting 08/13/2026

Attendance: Kate Kim, Jody Folk, Kathy O'Neill, Britta Loesel, Elham Zamanidoost, Sara Lake, Ana Pons, Nikol Varvaresou, Heather Wesselo, Nick Mariuz

Location: Sycamore Ridge 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 welcomed the Board and called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m.

Treasurer's Report and Approvals

Jody presented the June and July financial reports. The Board reviewed the current checking account balance, the maturing certificate of deposit, and expected income from the Annual Giving Campaign and corporate matching.

- Checks approved for July and August included Nos. 3434-3436, 3837-3839, and 3856. Check No. 3855 was voided.
- The Board agreed that approximately \$40,000 should remain available as working capital.
- Sara moved to renew the CD for five months and add \$10,000. The motion passed unanimously.
- The Board discussed maintaining adequate reserves as fundraising income declines and agreed to confirm the PTA guidance for recommended reserve levels.
- The Board increased the Movie Night budget from \$500 to \$700 to allow for outdoor equipment rental and event supplies.

Approval of July Minutes

- Bianca moved to approve the July meeting minutes. Sara seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

- **Stallion Sprinters**

- Participation increased substantially after introducing trophies, medals, and year-end shirts. Students completed more than 2,500 miles last year, compared with just over 1,000 miles the prior year. Three students exceeded 100 miles, and more than 20 students exceeded 50 miles.
- A third sandwich board will display current statistics and rewards away from the card check-in area.
- The committee will continue prizes and consider simplifying toe tokens and half-marathon shirts because both require significant volunteer time.
- The approved Stallion Sprinters budget for this year is \$800.

- **Annual Giving Campaign**

- Sara and Nicole reported that the campaign is live and donations are arriving, with strong early participation from staff. The official goal is \$45,000.
- A six-week communication campaign will begin in the Wednesday Folders, supported by sandwich boards on campus.
- Classes that reach 60 percent participation will be invited to the Popsicle Derby, and their teachers will receive a \$50 Book Fair gift card. Participation updates will begin after the campaign gains more activity.
- Families and staff who have difficulty using Membership Toolkit may submit the paper form and a check. Sara can enter those contributions manually.
- Volunteer sign-up sheets and a QR code will be available at Back-to-School Night. A volunteer will be available to help families register.

- **Volunteer and Program Updates**

- Leslie Johnson will serve as the PTA teacher representative. She will be unable to attend the first association meeting.
- Ms. Sutton will lead Reflections this year.
- Coordinate Science Olympiad communications and classroom promotion with the front office before distribution.

- **Drama Club**

- Jenny approved six student scholarships. Approximately 30 students had registered, with a goal of about 42 participants.
- Auditions will be held Monday from 2:30 to 4:45 p.m., with four students entering at a time.
- All students will attend the dance session Wednesday from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; selected students will remain for callbacks.
- Regular Monday rehearsals will run from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. and extend to 5:30 p.m. beginning in October. Wednesday rehearsals will involve selected groups.

- Equipment installation in the Multi-Use Room may affect rehearsals. The Drama Club will coordinate with the school as installation proceeds.
- **Stallion Stampede August 28**
 - Priya has booked the vendors, and event planning is on schedule.
 - Kathy will create the balloon arch, with help from Bianca. Existing arch equipment and other decorations will be checked in the PTA closet.
 - Joshua's will return as a Platinum sponsor and will provide an event activity.
 - Flyers will be placed in the Wednesday Folders. The horse inflatable and leftover candy, sparkling water, and other supplies may be used.
 - The committee will confirm Kona Ice and place the usual pizza order.
- **Spirit Wear**
 - Ana reported that the online store was nearly ready. The final prices still needed correction, and the store link would be added to Membership Toolkit.
 - The Board discussed current fulfillment and quality concerns, including missing items, incorrect sizes, and the absence of youth hoodies in the display order.
 - For future years, the Board will consider using one consistent school logo, improving product quality, and adding new colors or products without redesigning the logo each year.
 - Possible models include a different turnkey vendor, PTA-managed inventory through Membership Toolkit, or a hybrid with a small core inventory and limited ordering periods for specialty items.
- **Red Ribbon Week**
 - The selected theme is "Healthy Choices Make Us Shine." The committee discussed sun or star decorations and a possible metallic or sparkle dress-up day. Jennifer Good will be included in planning for library-related displays.

Principal's Update

- The IT Club will replace weekly videos with two or three feature videos per year. Event reminders and class participation will continue.
- The Board discussed fresher breakfast options, which may require approximately \$5,000 in facility upgrades. The district will be consulted.
- Late registrations increased enrollment. Kindergarten has 22 students, and some neighborhood families have been turned away due to capacity.
- The principal asked the district to preserve limited class space rather than fill classes to 24 students immediately, since additional neighborhood students may enroll during the year.
- A district enrollment committee will review enrollment trends and possible responses this year.
- The school will continue promoting its programs, campus improvements, and neighborhood-school community to support enrollment and retention.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.

The next PTA Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 10th 8:15 am at Sycamore Ridge.

Ana Pons
X _____

