

Ryerson PTO Board Meeting Minutes
9/18/2023 6:00-7:00pm

- Welcome (Erica and Charissa)
- Principal Report (Mrs. Farmer)
 - o Successful start to the year – “Out of this World” theme was great
 - o Busses have been running well and on time
 - o Back to School Night success - great attendance from parents
 - o Total of 324 students TY
- Treasurer Report (Alexia)
 - o Last school year, the PTO donated nearly \$40,000 back to the school, funding in-house assemblies, in-house educational experiences, field trips, new books, field day, etc.
 - o TY YTD expenses- \$21K
- Administrative
 - o PTO Google Calendar
 - Board team checking weekly
 - o Room Parents
 - PTO communicated 3 per classroom TY, successful volunteer response
 - PTO sent out Room Parent Guidelines (reiterating budget per student: \$10/per student to be used for crafts, parties, supplies)
 - o Student List by Class - can this please be shared with PTO presidents?
 - Can treasurer get student # by class for budgeting purposes (class reimbursements)
 - Information requested received
 - o PRC Updates (Erica and Charissa)
 - Superintendent update highlights
 - Brown project that was projected to be done this summer was finished. Still a bit more construction to continue throughout year- “New School” to be finished by summer of 2025
 - 2025-26 school year will start after Labor Day due to finishing of the new school buildings
 - Discussion around US News and World Report and Madison’s ranking (53rd in the state) and the reason behind the lower rating (many students take AP classes but then do not take the test a few months later/ trimester system). Overarching takeaway ranking is not concerning.
 - School collaboration opportunities
 - Movie Day with Jeffrey (To be planned)
 - Composting trial with Blue Earth in collaboration with Jeffrey
 - Too challenging for Ryerson to take on with current layout and timing around lunch. PTO to look to reduce single use plastic within Ryerson; composting for future Brown School (TBD)
 - PTO Accounting and Insurance policy collaboration
 - o June 2023 PTO Gift

- PTO has granted majority of June 2023 Gift Request
 - Remaining amount to be funded is \$3,165.
 - Additional ask of \$1,250 for K in-house experience, total \$4,450
 - Clarification needed - third graders received a field trip info form for Rockland Preserve stating that PTO is paying the field trip fees, however Rockland was not on the list of field trips PTO was given in the Gift Request.
 - What is the projected cost for Rockland?
 - PTO to fund a total of \$5,485; remainder from LY gift in addition to cost to cover Kindergarten in house experience and Rockland field trip
- o 2023-2024 School Assembly Grant
 - Total request of \$6,404 for 6 programs
 - Upcoming Assemblies
 - Make a Good Choice (9/21) - contract signed and sent on 9/15. Will need to be paid in full on 9/21. (\$930) PTO check written
 - Tommy James Halloween (10/27) (\$970) PTO check written for \$695/confirming if second payment needed
 - Cinderella (11/30) - will need contract and 50% deposit sent asap. (\$980) PTO check written
 - Payment plan
- Old Business
 - o Spirit Wear - Amy and Kylie
 - Closing 9/22
 - Orders scheduled to be delivered to school during the week of October 9, will be sorted/batched by individual student. PTO will sort into classes and deliver to classrooms to go home in backpacks.
 - When TYCO batches the orders, can they label each with student name and teacher name? Yes this is planned distribution
 - Strong response TY; additional items being sold at in person events
 - To add Spring Sale dates to PTO calendar
 - To add in person printing for next year orientation (Jeffrey had a lot of success with this event)
 - o Fall Enrichment - Erica
 - Classes start September 26, run for 4 weeks
 - Registration update
 - Erica will send rosters to Mrs. Solin
 - Teacher contracts to be sent out this week.
 - Teachers will be paid after last class.
 - PTO to share rosters once finalized
 - Confirmed dates for Painting with the Masters and Animals Galore art experience – 9/27, 10/4, 10/11 and 11/1 – TBD room assignments
 - o Sherry Rinker visit/book sales - Erica
 - October 6 1pm in MPR for grades K and 1
 - Author presentation and Q&A, book distribution to students who purchased
 - Recommendations before visit (from RJ Julia)
 - Publisher Activity Kit
 - Read book with class during week before visit, give students a chance to write questions for the author ahead of time

- Book Sale through link to RJ Julia site
- o Fall Pies/Cookie Dough – Erica
 - Sale 9/25 – 10/15 via direct link for each student
 - Parents will need to log in using same login as last year, or sign up using our link <https://my.mcmfundraising.com/signup/BTB8>
 - Once logged in, they will find an individualized url they can send to family/friends.
 - Distribution Wednesday Nov 8
 - ? incentives for highest sales - student or class?
 - PTO incentive decided: top 3 highest selling students will be included in morning announcement + gifted Madison Sticker and/or paw print water bottle
- o School Store - Lex
 - Will send price list to be shared with parents ahead of time (School or PTO email?)
 - September 29 first thing in the morning
 - PTO will arrive around 8am to set up. No shopping before school starts.
 - Will need 3 tables in lobby
 - Volunteers secured for entire year
 - Price List to be emailed to school population before sale commences
 - Parents invited to come at 8:30 to shop if they'd like with students before school
- o Scholastic Book Fair - Charissa
 - Monday Oct 23 - Friday Oct 27
 - Will need schedule for class visits (parents like so they can know when to come)
 - TY 61 books offered for under \$3.00
 - TY 95 books offered for under \$5.00
 - To create donation stickers on behalf of families – Basket for parents to choose teacher/library wishlist items
- o Family Trick or Treat Night - Erica and Charissa
 - Thursday 10/26
 - Requested \$5 donation at door
 - 5:30 - 6:30pm - Trick or Treating
 - 5:30 - 7:30pm - Book Fair Sales
 - Volunteer Needs (Confirmed all 20 volunteers needed for event)
 - Candy Donations
 - Decorations and decorators
 - Book Sale (roll into Book Fair Sign Up)
 - Cleanup
- New Business
 - o Teacher Breakfast - Emily
 - Tuesday, Nov 7 (Election Day)
 - o Beach Cleanup Day - Erica
 - Saturday, October 7 (Indigenous Peoples Weekend)
 - o Walk to School Day – PTO to postpone to spring
 - Tentative October 5 and 6
 - Do we want to participate?
 - Needed resources
 - o Campus Cleanup - Erica

- Tentative October 13
- o Parent Social Night – Charissa – Plan still in the works; Date and location TBD
- o Food Drive - Sandy Potter
 - tentative Nov 1-15
 - MFP beneficiary
- o Charleston Fundraiser
 - Oct 30 - Nov 17
- o Family BINGO Night – Confirmed for date and location
 - Tentative Friday November 10 5:30-7:30pm
 - Entry fee
 - Prizes
 - Can we hold in MPR?
- o Adrenaline Rush Ryerson Day- Charissa
 - Nov 7
- o Bridgeport Islanders Game - Lex
 - Family fun, tentative Sunday 3pm 1/7/23 or 2/25/24
- o Sneaker Drive
 - Sandy Potter
 - Plan to roll out in early October
- o Junior Achievement (Lex) – PTO to hold in March; One Day (TBD); Room Parents (TBD)
 - JA in a Day Program (8:30-1:30pm)
 - PTO to coordinate parent volunteers per classroom
 - When in school year (Jan-March in past? & @ Jeffrey)
- o Movie Day
 - Collab with Jeffrey
 - Tentative MLK day
- o Variety Show – PTO to budget \$1,000 in the case of AV cost; to charge for Adult tickets
 - Working with DHHS principal Mr. Salutari and his assistant to hold in cafetorium
 - AV system is complicated, condition of using the facility would be to hire students who are trained on it
- o Future Author Visits
 - Greeking Out pushed to later in the year, TBD
 - Lauren Tarshis - I Survived series author
 - Lives locally, flexible. Possibly January (no assemblies scheduled for that month)