



The Redtail Ridge Review

Principals Update

October 2025

Redtail Ridge Elementary School

Quick Links

[Lunch Menu](#)

[Redtail Ridge Website](#)

[Background Check for
Volunteers](#)

Hello Redtail Ridge Families!

What a wonderful start to the school year! It has been such a joy to see students settling into routines and procedures so quickly, which sets the stage for a positive year of learning and growth.

Our theme this year is **Kindness Matters**. This focus connects perfectly with our CARES values: *Cooperation, Assertion, Responsibility, and Self-Control*. Each act of kindness—whether it's including a new friend at recess, lending a helping hand, or showing respect—demonstrates one or more of these values in action.

To keep kindness and positivity front and center, we are introducing **PositiviTEE Tuesdays** at Redtail Ridge! Every Tuesday (unless it's a different Spirit Day), staff and students are encouraged to wear a t-shirt with a positive quote or message. Many staff members have been ordering *Kindness Matters* t-shirts. [Here is a link](#) to the t-shirt staff are ordering if you'd like to order one for your child.

Thank you for partnering with us as we help our students learn not only academics, but also the importance of kindness and character. Together, we are creating a school community where every child feels valued, supported, and inspired to be their best.

Regards,
Mrs. Yetzer

New Staff at Redtail Ridge!

This year we are welcoming many new staff members to Redtail Ridge. If you see any of them around school, please give them a nice, warm welcome into our RR Family!

Amanda Cockrill - 5th Grade
Abby Weeres - 5th Grade
Jessica Erickson - 3rd Grade
Kendall Skaalen - Lifeskills Para
Kaitlyn Connelly - Lifeskills Para
Kristina McKeown - Lifeskills Para
Val Rushton - Special Education Administrative Assistant
Allison Heisler - Art Teacher
Dana Hardy - Special Education Teacher
Upashana Misha - Noon Supervisor/Kids Company
Fabi Holm - Noon Supervisor
Maria DiCicco - Noon Supervisor/Kids Company
Patrizia Borgerding - Child Nutrition
Jake McCauley - Kids Company
Abby Henry - Kids Company

WELCOME TO REDTAIL RIDGE!



Drop Off and Pick Up Reminders

Reminders for families **dropping off** their student:

- Student drop off begins at 8:15 am. Staff have meetings and are preparing for the day so they are unavailable to supervise prior to this time. For safety reasons, please do not leave your student unattended.
- Make sure you are pulled up behind the vehicle in front of yours to ensure there is no backup on 154th street. (**please do not leave large gaps**). There is no need for front door service unless it is raining.

- Student(s) must exit the passenger side door next to the curb. Please have your child exit **along the yellow painted line on the sidewalk area**. This helps expedite the process and alleviate congestion on 154th Street.
- To enable a smooth and continuous flow of traffic, students should have their backpacks in hand and be ready to exit the passenger side of the vehicle next to the curb as soon as the car is in line in the drop-off area
- If you need to have additional interaction with your child or wish to accompany your child into the building, please park your car in our parking lot rather than holding up the line of drop-off vehicles.
- After children are dropped off, vehicles should pull away from the curb and exit, allowing access for other drivers. PLEASE do this with caution.
- Wait your turn in line. Please do not go around other vehicles to gain access to the drop off area or exit prior to the car in front of your vehicle.

[Here](#) is a video that shows this process.

Reminders for families **picking up** their student:

- Please have your **car tag** hanging from your inside rear view mirror or somewhere clearly visible in your windshield. For safety reasons, name and number need to be displayed or you may be asked to come into the school to check out your child.
- Make sure you are pulled up behind the vehicle in front of yours to ensure there is no backup on 154th street. **(please do not leave large gaps)**
- Pick-up students will line up in the hallway next to their number and wait to hear their number and last name to be called.
- Staff will radio in the number and name of your child/children and wave you forward to move up in the car line.
- Please wait until your child is escorted to your vehicle. They must enter the back passenger side door near the curb.
- **Do not get out of the car**, staff will assist if necessary.
- Please watch staff outside as they might ask you to continue to move forward as cars in front of you leave. We will ensure that your child is brought to your car.

We will not begin to release pick up students prior to 2:53 pm.

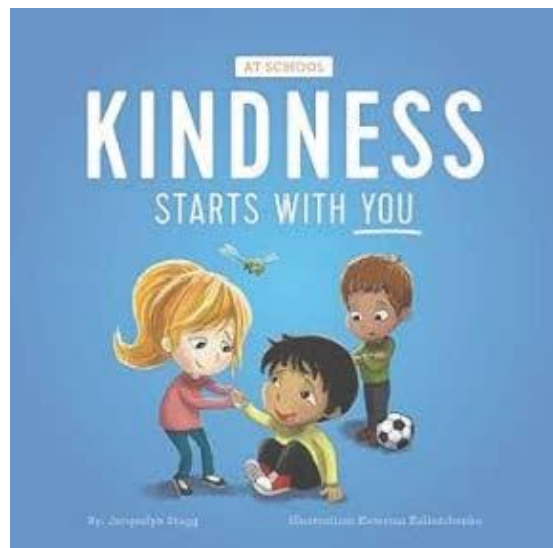


Principals Reading Corner

Each month, I visit every grade level to read a book together. This past week, I shared *Kindness Starts with You* by Jacquelyn Stagg.

This story highlights the power of kindness through the eyes of Maddy, a student who shows how small acts—like taking turns on the swing, giving someone a compliment or inviting others into a game—can make a big difference. It's a wonderful reminder that no act of kindness is ever wasted.

To build on this message, our school is taking part in a daily **Kindness Challenge** throughout the month of October. Be sure to ask your child what each day's challenge has been—they've been excited to share and put kindness into action.



Lunch Room Volunteers

This year we are again asking for lunch room helpers. THANK YOU to all who have already signed up and helped us out this year! If you have time in your schedule to come volunteer in our lunch room, we would LOVE to have you. Here's the [sign up genius](#).



OCTOBER SPIRIT DAYS

1st - Down Syndrome Awareness Day - Wear Blue & Yellow



3rd - Blue & Gold Day **ALL SCHOOL MEETING** **PL**

6th- World Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day- Wear Green



13th - Indigenous People Day - Wear Orange



22nd- Unity Day- Wear Orange



31st - Character Day (book or movie)



From the PTC

The PTC has a general operating budget around \$55,000. Each year, we fundraise this money primarily through our Read-a-Thon Fundraiser in February. In February 2025, we raised \$40,000! Additionally, we sell Butter Braids every fall which yields between \$8,000-12,000. These two fundraisers determine what we can fund throughout the year to enhance our students' learning and school community. There are standing commitments that use up a large portion of these funds. Teacher/Staff appreciation is \$10,000 of that operating budget. This splits into Winter Gift Cards to all staff (\$4500), Back-to-school supply allotment (\$3575), and keeping our staff fed with special meals and snacks throughout the year (\$2,000+). Funding requests from staff throughout the year total nearly \$10,000. These requests are for items like laminating paper, new library books, playground balls, special grade level projects, etc.

Subscriptions are another cost totaling almost \$3,500 annually. The PTC spends about \$10,000 a year in operating costs associated with running PTC. Guest Speakers, fundraiser expenses, providing incentives for students throughout the school year, family fun nights, stocking the book vending machine, are a few examples of where those dollars go. Finally, whatever amount remains, goes toward our big project for the year—like new playground equipment, outdoor learning area improvements, campus beautification. PTC is grateful for every dollar raised, every slot filled on signup genius, and every person who takes the time to make our school great!

Below is our busy October snapshot of events as well as flyer for both restaurant fundraisers. Feel free to share, share, share those flyers! The more the merrier!!!

Thank you for supporting the PTC so we can support our school and staff!

REDTAIL PTC

OCTOBER



MONTH AT A
GLANCE

1ST-20TH

BUTTERBRAID SALES

6TH

CHARLIES RESTURANT NIGHT
4PM-CLOSE

7TH

PTC MEETING- 6PM
CONFERENCE ROOM - ALL ARE WELCOME!

20TH

RAISING CANES RESTURANT NIGHT
5PM-9PM

ALL MONTH

REDTAIL RIDGE APPERAL STORE LINK

[HTTPS://REDTAIL-RIDGE.CHECKOUTSTORES.COM/](https://redtail-ridge.checkoutstores.com/)



REDTAIL RIDGE ELEMENTARY PTC



REDTAILRIDGEPTC@GMAIL.COM

OPEN PTC POSITIONS

- FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR
- VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
- SOCIAL MEDIA

RESTAURANT

FUNDRAISER

★ ★ ★ ★

NIGHT

**JOIN US AT CHARLIE'S ON PRIOR FOR OUR FIRST
RESTAURANT NIGHT OF THE YEAR!**

**MENTION YOU ARE WITH REDTAIL RIDGE AND
CHARLIE'S WILL DONATE 15% OF THE SALES!**

**OCTOBER 6TH
4:00 PM TO CLOSE**

**3950 GREEN HEIGHTS TRAIL SW
PRIOR LAKE, MN55372**



**BRING YOUR FAMILY!
HAVE FUN!
SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!**

JOIN OUR FUNDRAISER



Wednesday, October 22nd | 5:00PM - 9:00PM
1501 County Road 42 W | Burnsville

Mention the fundraiser at the Restaurant or apply code **RCFUND96** to online or app orders at checkout and Cane's will **donate 15% of Net Sales*** to:

Redtail Ridge Elementary

Est. 96

Chaveable! CHICKEN FINGER MEALS

1 LOVE



➤ Learn more about how we can support you at CanesAndCommunity.com

Raising Cane's

Minimum donation amount will be 15% of the Net Sales* donated directly to your organization. Not valid on kiosk orders. **Net Sales* means the purchase price of food and beverages sold during the event to customers who (i) mention your organization when ordering in person or (ii) use the code RCFUND96 when ordering online or in the Raising Cane's app. The purchase price excludes special or limited time offers, discounts, returns, and taxes. "Net Sales" does not include gift cards and retail merchandise purchases.

f i t d RaisingCanes

Redtail Ridge DOGS (Dads Of Great Students)

Our DOGS group has some exciting things planned for the 2024-25 School Year - starting out with a joint DOGS (all elementary schools in PLSAS) Movie Night! We hope you can join us!

Date & Time: Friday Oct. 10th. 5pm Arrival; Movie at 7-7:30pm

Location: Track field at La Ola del Lago

Details: Families are welcome to bring blankets and snacks. Concessions will be available. All elementary families are invited!



DOGS & LOBOS PRESENTS



MOVIE NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

Friday, October 10th
La Ola Del Lago Track Field



From the Library

Redtail Ridge is excited to offer the Legacy Book Club. This is a positive way for your child to give a unique gift to everyone at Redtail Ridge Elementary while celebrating a special day in their lives. The legacy book can be for a birthday, in honor of someone special, or for whatever you would like to celebrate.

If interested, you can purchase a book from this wish list: bit.ly/rrlegacy. Your child's name will be featured on a special bookplate in the front of the book, and your child will receive a bookmark as a thank you gift. They will then get to be the first person to check out the book from the Redtail Ridge Library.

If you have questions, please email Mrs. Iverson at kiverson@plsas.org. Happy Reading!



Fifth Grade Leadership on Kindness & Respect

The first week of school, Mr. Brandell and I met with the entire 5th grade and together they brainstormed what kindness and respect look like at Redtail Ridge. Their thoughtful ideas were compiled and a poster was created to share with our whole school community at our September 12th All School Meeting. We are so proud of their leadership and the example they are setting for all of our students—please see their amazing poster below!



From Child Nutrition Services

Beginning Monday, October 6th, students in grades 3–5 will have the option to purchase an extra entrée at lunch. If you would like your student to have this option, please make sure there is money in their lunch account. We also ask that you have a conversation with your child about whether they are allowed to purchase additional food.

Caught Caring Winners

At Redtail Ridge we celebrate our CARES (Cooperation, Assertion, Responsibility, Empathy and Self-Control). Students can be "Caught Caring" if they show one of the CARES during school and staff may give them a Caught Caring Ticket. Each week we draw winners and those students can choose a reward from a list of Caught Caring Awards as a special thank you from the school staff for being a CARES student.

Our (FIRST FOR THE YEAR) winners for the week of September 22nd are:

First Photo:

Kindergarten: Harrison (Scheffler) and Miles (Alpaugh)

1st Grade: Sahro (Hanson) and Dax (Haugh)

2nd Grade: Sadie (Hansen) and Evy (McGinnis)

3rd Grade: Scarlet (Erickson) & Tessa (Miller)

4th Grade: Shay (Hough) & John (Hanstad)

5th Grade: Freddy (Doerr) & Taliyah (Cockrill)

Second Photo:

Walkers/Bikers/Parent Pick Up/Kids Co: Olivia (Groll) & Claire (Glass)



Our Caught Caring MVP's for the week of 9/29 are:

First Picture:

Kindergarten: Ori (Alpaugh) & Hunter (Scheffler)

1st Grade: Lily (Haugh) & Lottie (Schnackenberg)

2nd Grade: Nick (Glass) & William (Stuftt)

3rd Grade: Calvin (Hatchett) & Octavia (Kodada)

4th Grade: Cam (Roberts) & Ty (Groll)

5th Grade: Zayd (Weeres) & Jonah (Reetz)

Second Picture:

Bus: Tommy (Erickson) & Luca (Hough)
Walkers/Bikers/Parent Pick Up/Kids Co: Peyton (Roberts) & Jordynn (McGinnis)



Mark your calendars for these upcoming events at Redtail Ridge:
(Be sure to check this list each month, as changes or additions **MAY** occur)

Tuesday, October 7th: PTC Meeting 6:00-7:00 PM in the Office Conference Room
Thursday, October 9th: ESTEM Day
Wednesday, October 15th: No School
Thursday, October 16th & Friday, October 17th: No School-MEA Break
Thursday, October 20th: PTC Butterbraid Fundraiser- Orders Due
Wednesday, October 22nd: Picture Retake Day
Monday, October 27th- Friday, October 31st: 5th grade trip to Wolf Ridge
Monday, November 3rd: PTC Meeting 6:00-7:00 PM in the Media Center
Thursday, November 6th: End of 1st Quarter
Friday, November 7th: No School
Tuesday, November 18th: Conferences 3:15-6:15 PM & PTC Butterbraid Pick Up
Thursday, November 20th: Conferences 3:15-6:15 PM
Monday, November 24th: Conferences 3:15-7:15 PM
Wednesday, November 26- Friday, November 28th: No School
Tuesday, December 2nd: PTC Meeting 6:00-7:00 PM in the Media Center
Thursday, December 4th: 3rd Grade Music Program 1:30 PM
Monday, December 22nd-Friday, January 2nd: No School-Winter Break
Tuesday, January 6th: PTC Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm in the Media Center
Thursday January 15th: Redtail Ridge Choir Concert 6:30 PM
Monday, January 19th: No School
Thursday, January 22nd: End of 2nd Quarter
Friday, January 23rd: No School
Friday, January 30th: PTC Winter Family Fun Night
Tuesday, February 3rd: 5th Grade Highland Ski Trip
Tuesday, February 3rd: 2nd Grade Music Program 1:30 pm
Tuesday, February 3rd: PTC Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm in the Media Center
Tuesday, February 10th: Conferences 3:15-6:15 PM
Thursday, February 12th: Conferences 3:15-6:15 PM
Friday, February 13th: No School
Monday, February 16th: No School
Thursday, February 19th: Conferences 3:15-7:15 PM
Monday, March 2nd: PTC Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm in the Media Center
Thursday, March 12th: 1st Grade Music Program 1:30 pm

Friday, March 27th: End of 3rd Quarter
Monday, March 30th-Friday, April 3rd: No School-Spring Break
Tuesday, April 7th: PTC Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm in the Media Center
Friday, May 1st: PTC End of the Year Family Fun Night
Tuesday, May 5th: PTC Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm in the Media Center
Thursday, May 7th: Redtail Ridge Choir Concert 6:30 pm
Monday, May 25th: No School-Labor Day
Monday, June 1st: 5th grade Graduation 1:30 pm
Tuesday, June 2nd: Fun in the Sun Day
Wednesday, June 3rd: Kindergarten Graduation & Music Program 1:30 pm
Tuesday, June 3rd: PTC Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm in the Media Center