Westridge PTA Meeting Minutes – September 11, 2026

Attendees: Jennie Hogan, Hallie Wemmie, Molly Daniel, Jennifer Drucker, Marcela Delgado, Courtney Peterson, Jessica Olinger, Kelsi Salmon, Ashley Thoreson, Bonnie Richards, Spencer Harsch, Brodi Duer, Anna Lamoureux, Anne Lind, Sara Routh, Nicole Campbell, Michelle Knox, Tiffany Pesek

Call to order: Meeting called to order by President Hallie Wemmie at 9:16 am.

Introductions: *Hallie Wemmie*

- Introductions of the board and present members.
- Quick overview of the PTA. There's nothing majorly different from last year – it's going to be a good year full of events for the students and staff.
- We'll be here to share ideas and get updates on school happenings and different committees.

Principal's report: *Jody Kerchal and Michelle Knox*
Michelle reported on behalf of Jody –

- Great energy and excitement for the first few back to school weeks.
- New staff including Michelle Knox (AP), Erin Read (Counselor), Nancy Fregoso (Counselor), Riley Tharp (2nd), Gretchen Fackler (3rd), Emily Walter (4th), Genna Kinley (5th), Tony Aunspach (PE), Brett Wheelan (PE), and several new associates. Close to being fully staffed.
- Created new action teams for more support and collaboration towards daily desired experiences (Empowerment, Wellbeing, Community, Belonging, Agency).
- Continue work on communication for students and staff (The Ridge Newsletter).
- Just completed fall benchmark assessments.
- There's a Math Adoption Committee currently looking at two new potential curriculums.
- Homecoming is next week – dress up days coming via email.
- New safety and response protocols being adopted from the I Love You Guys foundation. Information will be sent out via email but focuses on protocols under the umbrellas of Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate and Shelter. We encourage families to discuss with their children.
- Trying to collect a few items via donations for the school:
    - Counting collections for kindergarten (send in a plastic bag and give to the front desk).
    - White 1" binders with clear sleeve for reading fluency binders (need about 300 total).
- Core theme for the building: You Matter.

Teacher's Report: *Jillian Robbins*
Hallie reported on behalf of Jillian –

- Back to school lunch was terrific.
- State testing is wrapping up and class routines are all set up.
- The building goal this year is around Executive Functioning Skills. Now through October, staff will be focusing on foundational skills of working memory, impulse control, and attention focus.

Treasurer's Report: *Molly Daniel*
Current Account Balances:
Checking $3,845.75 • Savings $50,320.26 for a total of $54,166.01

- **Financial Highlights:**
    - We're in good shape with savings, but fundraising will be important.
    - The fiscal year wrapped up at the end of June so we paid $725 for taxes.

    - At the beginning of the year, we're mostly paying out teacher reimbursements, back to school lunch for teachers and school supply boxes.
    - We now have two credit card readers available for checkout.
- **Income/Fundraising Efforts:**
    - Our goal is to have more specific set fundraisers that we can look forward to each year (we've been working the last couple of years to find what works and what doesn't).
    - T-shirt sales
        - Raised about $864 from Back to School night and online sales.
        - Still have adult sizes (for sale online) and some youth (contact PTA for availability).
        - We plan to bring the remainder to school events.
        - Other apparel sales will include Pink Poppy in November and an America's Best store in the spring.

Secretary's report: *Jennifer Drucker*

- May minutes made available for review – approved without objection.
- Membership Reminders
    - Robust membership allows the PTA to continue to have a strong collective voice and programs in the Westridge Community and membership gives each individual voting rights within the organization.
    - Committee chairs are required to be members.
    - Membership can be purchased through the Givebacks site via QR code or with cash/check at the meeting.

Committee updates:

Fundraising - Nicole Campbell

- Met with Jody this week to discuss a couple of ideas.
- First fundraiser will be positive message tiger paws for Homecoming Week. Families can buy a Tiger Paw with a message on it for $5 each to hang in Westridge and the parade float.
- Putting things together for the fall fundraiser.
- Planning to do a fun run in the spring.
- Hoping to get more corporate sponsorships.
- Trying to raise about $40k for PTA throughout the year.
- Sending a Google form to the teachers to gauge interest in the teacher experience fundraiser..

Family Activities - Hallie Wemmie

- Anna is taking over family activities next year. Trying to get a group of people who would like to help with committee planning.
- Full Year Planning
    - Westridge Bash will be the first big event in October.
    - Over the past few years we've done Kindergarten Park playdate, WR Bash, Bingo, Family Skate night.
    - Moving away from skate night due to pricing. We're open to ideas on what to replace that with or if we reallocate budget to the other events.
    - Looking for ideas of other fun events. Having at school helps with budget but takes more coordination. (ideas include: tailgating, food trucks, ice cream social during book fair, renting a pool at the end of the school year, etc.).
    - Bingo or board game night for a mid-winter event.

Yearbook - Jennifer Drucker

- Yearbooks currently on sale (flyers have gone out). 10% discount until the end of October.
- Upload your photos throughout the year in the Treering site (from the homepage click “Explore Yearbooks” and then “Upload School Photos”. Feel free to reach out with any questions or issues).

Student Clubs -

- Chess (Spencer Harsch) - Hosted on Friday mornings. Would love additional adult help to facilitate.
- *Archery* - Sign ups will happen next month to begin practice in November (4th grade and up).
- *Book Club* - Will start in a few months.
- *Girls on the Run* - Currently not active, need coach volunteers to run it (3rd grade and up).
- *Legos/Robotics* - Currently not active, need volunteers to run it and set up missions/lessons. Kids went to a competition last year.

6th Grade Activities - Alyssa Clabaugh
Marcela reported on behalf of Alyssa.

- Need a volunteer to create the video.
- Teachers are getting t-shirt sizes confirmed so that orders can be placed this week.
- Links and flyers sent to parents for donations.

Homeroom Parents - Alyssa Clabaugh/Ashley Bovard
Marcela reported on behalf of Alyssa/Ashley.

- All rooms are covered except for Pre-K PM.
- Discussion on tips and tricks for setting up classroom parties.

School Play - Jessica Olinger

- Over 50 auditions this week and over 150 submissions for kids wanting to participate.
- Cast announcement will go out this Sunday.
- Parent meeting next Wednesday and rehearsals starting the following Sunday.

School Supplies - Anne Lind

- PTA purchased 5 extra packs for each grade.
- Sold less packs this year, but costs did go up.
- Teacher supply packs are available.

Other Current Business:

- Volunteer needs: *Jennie Hogan*
    - Join the volunteer network to get notified of opportunities that arise at the school.
    - Westridge Bash - need trunks and helpers during the event.
    - Booster Pak - need someone to take over the committee from Kelsi next year.

Important dates/upcoming events:
September 25 - Fall parties 2:45 - 3:45 pm
October 1 - Family Engagement Night 5:30 - 7:00
October 8 - Next PTA meeting, 6:15 pm
October 23 - Westridge Bash

Meeting adjourned without objection at 10:10 a.m.