

**Sunset Ridge/Middlefork School PTO**  
**Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 9am**  
**Virtual Zoom PTO Minutes**

**Meeting Called to Order: Christie Caceres,**  
**Approval of October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Minutes: Approved Emily LeMire & Yena Levinson**

Presidents Report:

*Christie Caceres, PTO President*

Movie in the park was awesome. We had wonderful weather for a night in the park. Thank you all for being there and for your support!

Lots of activity including conference meals, we appreciate everybody's time and contributions. We continue to put the PTO funds to good use.

PTO gift site looks great, thank you Sandy and Brent. Please take time to look and give your feedback, we really appreciate it. [PTO Gifts Site](#)

Chrissy gave Kori's treasurer report:

- Bank account at \$83,409.93 as of 11/7/2022
- To date we have collected 80% (\$9,550) of classroom fees. We have paid out \$8,475 leaving \$1,075 left to be paid out to the room parents which will be done later this year. It is not too late to pay the party/classroom fees, we will continue to cut checks to the room parents all year.
- We are also at 82% of PTO dues collected, over the goal of \$4500. We are in a great spot on the PTO dues!
- Please send in reimbursement requests for PTO expenses. So far, we have processed room parent fees, conference meals, movie in the park and zoom fee. So far all within budget!

President Elect Report:

*Sandy Norbot, PTO President Elect*

Applications are in for the PTO gifts program. All are updated on the PTO website under [PTO Gifts Program](#) Click on the photo for each submission for further detailed description as well as the amounts requested.

We ask that you take a look and if you have any feedback please email sandy at [sandynorbot@yahoo.com](mailto:sandynorbot@yahoo.com). We will meet on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and discuss all your feedback when considering what gifts we will be granting for this school year. We will make the announcement at the next PTO meeting December 13<sup>th</sup> 2022.

Community Update:

*Bill Lustig, Northfield Chief of Police*

Halloween went well, no complaints. Looks like parents and kids had equal amounts of fun and everybody remained safe.

New officer training is progressing well, he is 4 weeks into his training. Looking forward to getting him out on solo patrol.

We have arrested a car burglar, as well as a subject for felony robbery (at the Northfield Diner this past summer).

We lost our crossing guard, but our records clerk will be out there subbing in.

Administration Reports:

*Dr. Ed Stange, District 29 Superintendent of Schools*

At the Board of Education meeting coming up in November we will be discussing several important items:

The **Education committee meeting** will discuss the Strategic plan updates including a review of the 2021-2022 student assessment outcomes. We have the student academic achievement data and will also be going over this at the Parent Connections meeting. Both Middlefork and Sunset Ridge rated as “exemplary” by Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). This rating means the schools are among the highest performing 10% of schools across the state. In addition, D29 was the only district in the New Trier Township with all schools rated as Exemplary. Furthermore, of the 5 state performance metrics (Math Proficiency, Reading Proficiency, Science Proficiency, Math growth, Reading growth), D29 had the highest percentage in the New Trier Township on 4 out of 5 of these metrics.

The **regular Board Meeting** will be discussing the first reading/proposal of the 2023-2024 District calendar, with a goal to approve by January. We will discuss the results of an enrollment study done by Demographer who will share his findings on projected enrollment in D29. We will be discussing the 2022 Tax Levy and looking for board approval.

Thank you to Sargent Hanus for his work at Sunset Ridge on internet safety. He was so wonderful and stayed after the presentation and played a game with each of the grade levels.

*Jennifer Kiedaisch, Middlefork Principal*

Reports from Middlefork and Sunset Ridge.

At the district level, our two curriculum committees are SEL and Math. We are in the second year of curriculum review of these programs. Our SEL committee is called Ruler training. We have continued this training which entails creating a building charter. This is building an agreement on what we value and how we can get there as a staff. That is the step for this year. Next year we will be rolling out ruler for students. Math teachers from K-8 have been exploring some other curriculum resources for the math pilot. Some of the highest rated resources and how they look in front of our students. We will keep you updated on how that is going

CIA (Civics in Action) came together with Sunset Ridge leaders, along with Ms. Brumwell representing Middlefork Dedicated Dolphins. It was really fun talking about what we are all doing individually and how we can come together.

Thank you for the amazing flowers and food treats for Conference meals. The staff is so grateful.

I want to thank all the Middlefork room parents for room parties, very organized and engaging. Thank you to the parents for attending the costume parade.

We are in the process of hiring a first grade teacher. We have been recruiting candidates and will begin interviewing some this week.

We are very proud of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student led program, socks for those in needs. The costume and candy drive is another excellent program that will continue through this week! Such great leadership from our students and amazing to see the impact on our community.

**Sunset ridge:** Thank all the room parents who are creative and dedicated to making such a special

Basketball teams up and running: No girls JV or 6<sup>th</sup> grade unfortunately, due to lack of student interest.

Fall fest was last Friday and it was run by student ambassadors. It was a success with 60 students in attendance.

Sunset Ridge will host our annual Veteran's Day concert on Friday at 2pm. The community is welcome to attend, and we will also be livestreaming the event. The link will be sent out later in the week.

Middlefork and SR picture retakes this Thursday 11/10

*Dr. Ivy Sukenik, SRS Principal – Out sick*

School Board Report

*Abigayil Joseph*

- Covered by Dr. Stange

Committee Reports:

*Mekhala Middleton/Chrissy Geraghty, Movie in the park*

Movie in the park was a great success! The two vendors used were R & B City DJ's and X. There was popcorn and candy served! It was great to have everybody coming together to enjoy a fall night as a group. Thank you for being there and supporting.

*Archana Piotrowski, Room Parents/Halloween Parties*

Archana shared photos from the fun parties at the schools. There was a big mummy theme, and a photo was shared of Ed being wrapped in toilet paper. Thank you to everybody for their creativity and their involvement. Busy day for everybody but everybody had a great time. Thank you so much!

*Dan Friedman, CIA Civics in Action*

The students are very organized, and they have some real stuff they want to work on. They are talking about combining groups and community involvement. They are talking about how their families are taking it seriously at home, like turning off lights when leaving a room. Their goal is to do some crossover between schools and get more parents and community involved.

*Sarah Cohn, Book Fair*

Christie Caceres spoke on the upcoming Book Fair :  
Book Fair is coming up Tuesday December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Middlefork family book fair is open 5:15-7:16pm on December 6<sup>th</sup> and 3:15-5:15pm on December 7<sup>th</sup>. [Middlefork Volunteer sign up](#)

Sunset Ridge – Book fair is December 6<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5:30pm. Sunset ridge already has a full volunteer list.

Midelfork is hosting a coin drive with all proceeds being used to buy new books for kids with limited resources.

*Seong McGarry, Parent Connections*

At last month's meeting we discussed the National Sex Education curriculum – Sex Education Presentation. Sex education is optional and districts can alter what they offer. Parents can opt out of the parts of the teachings. Dr. Stange is available to discuss should anybody have questions. November 15<sup>th</sup> next meeting. Agenda attached

*Devon Pearce - Winter Benefit*

*Info on Winter benefit [Here](#)*

Sandy speaking on behalf, Angie and Devon. March 4<sup>th</sup> 2023 is the Winter benefit at Sunset Ridge Country Club. The team is going to roll out the solicitation letter for fundraising. They have gotten more parent volunteers which is wonderful. If you want to get involved please let them know, or reach out to the PTO and we will link you up with the right person. They have selected an online platform and will unveil that platform soon. This platform will be used for ticket purchases and online bidding for fundraising.

They are putting so much time into this party and are working so hard. Please start thinking of anything you can donate to the silent auction. This is all about what we can do to raise funds for the PTO. We only throw this fundraiser every other year and it lines our budget to do all we do!

That is it for today!

Virtual Zoom Meeting Adjourned : 9:24am

Minutes compiled by : Emily LeMire, Secretary