



# ROLES PTO

Providing Parent Support for Students and Teachers at Riveredge

April 2021

## PTO Board

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## Honor The Earth!

*By Mike Mullen, School Administrator*

### Earth Day/Week Project (Week of April 19th):

This year at ROLES we will start an Oak Thicket project for each of the classrooms. This project will provide our students with a long term hands on science exploration opportunity as we measure the changes and advantages that these thickets provide to the Riveredge Property. We will seek parent volunteers to help and also build some observation posts for each thicket. During this project each class will have the opportunity to create an Oak thicket and every student will have the chance to plant an oak tree. Watch for a volunteer sign up.

### Enrollment:

Our enrollment for next year is strong and we have high demand in the younger grades. We will have a few spots open in the upper grades so please continue to share info about our school with your friends, family and networks.

### 5th grade Fall 2021:

We will have a stand-alone 5th grade classroom next year. It will be small the first year but will likely a full class the second year. We are starting the process of seeking a certified, caring, nature based educator for this position in the next week.

### 5th Grade leadership team project:

I'm currently working with the 5th grade leadership team on a nature kiosk project to be placed on the grounds. Their ideas are amazing and we hope to begin construction soon

## ROLES School Updates Continued

### Forward Exam:

3rd-5th grade got off to a great start last week with the forward exam. The teachers and para's did an awesome job of preparing the students and providing a quality testing environment to support all students. The Forward Exam results are used by the state to measure progress of 3-5th grade students as compared to their peers. These results typically come to us in June and when the school report cards are created.

### MAP Testing:

We will begin MAP testing in early May for all students. Map testing is used to evaluate student growth in many curricular areas and is used by our team to assess the curriculum we teach and identify any gaps in learning that may exist. This year we will use MAP testing to evaluate growth of our students in many areas and use the information to guide our curriculum work and instruction for the next school year.

### Parent Survey:

As part of our Continuous Improvement process we are creating an end of the year parent survey. This data will be used to help guide our strategic planning for the next two years and will be a critical piece of that work. We look forward to hearing about your ideas, concerns and any suggestions that you may have to help us grow this amazing school.

## ***STAFF APPRECIATION***

**Thank you** to all of our wonderful staff! Staff appreciation is coming up, so stay on the look out for info on how we can show our staff some love. Please reach out to Chrissy Knoske if you have any ideas or want to help out! (Email: [alaskaborn@icloud.com](mailto:alaskaborn@icloud.com)).

## **COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT**

Thank you to all who have donated to our school's emergency **snack bins**! We are in need of water bottles and fruit/veggie pouches for the K/1 bins. If anyone is willing to donate, please drop off by Mrs. Weiss.

**ROLES Archery Club** started 4/9 and continues for 4 Fridays. Please reach out to Chrissy Knoske if you are interested.

**Future Ideas/projects** (all pending covid restrictions):

- \* **ROLES used book exchange**-students will bring in one or more books to donate to the exchange and have the opportunity to pick one for themselves to take home.
- \* **Character award signs**-working on a plan to design and purchase yard signs recognizing ROLES students who have displayed great character at school. The process for recognition is yet to be determined and will be in place come fall!
- \* **Kindergarten Roundup**-planning to have a welcome day for kindergarten families towards middle to end of summer.
- \* **New and returning student buddies**-the goal is to have a buddy system in place to allow new students to be paired with returning students that can show them the ropes and be a familiar face for the first day. Planning in progress.

## **Earth Day Week**

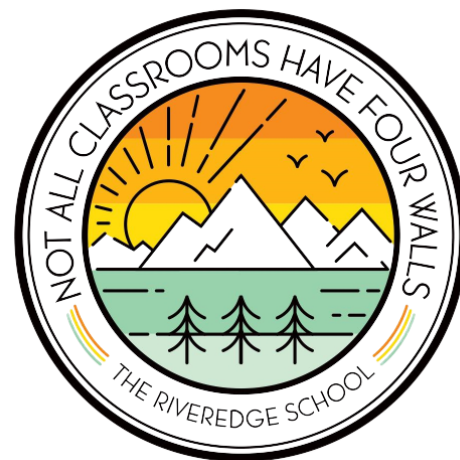
We are very excited for our first Earth Day Week together at Riveredge Nature Center! There are a variety of activities being planned for this fun week, April 19-23. Here are our dress up days - all must be school appropriate and functional. Students will be outside and in the dirt during the week. Have fun!

Mon, 4/19: Flannel or Plaid

Tues, 4/20: Camouflage

Wed, 4/21: School spirit wear or Animal

Thurs, 4/22: Green



## **FUNDRAISING**

1. Stickers/Clings/New Shirts/Tote Bags
  - ◇ Wrapping up sales 4/11. Stickers and clings to come home with kids on 4/12. Gear will be distributed around end of April. Will email when ready.
2. Restaurant Fundraiser Idea
  - ◇ Firehouse Subs in Grafton and West Bend on same date and time (probably 4-7pm). Will receive 15% of sales if mention our school. Thinking of having this fundraiser in the summer to save for a fall welcome picnic or event.

**Enrollment for 2021-22 School Year:**  
Just a reminder that both new and returning students to ROLES MUST have completed applications turned in to ROLES **by April 30th!** Please contact Emily Weiss at [eweiss@nosd.edu](mailto:eweiss@nosd.edu) with any enrollment questions.

## GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

We hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful spring weather! We are excited to officially have Mr. Mullen as the ROLES School Administrator for the 2021-2022 School Year and we want to thank him for all he does on a daily basis to make ROLES a great school!

The 2021-2022 School Year Calendar has been approved so please look for that to come out soon.

At the last Governance Council meeting, we approved a virtual Friday model for next year. While we know this isn't an ideal schedule for everyone, after a great deal of research and discussion, we found it was the best solution in order to help the teachers have adequate curriculum planning and prep time. There are some potential opportunities that are currently being worked on for families for next year, so please keep a lookout for those in the future.

We also want to thank the teachers for all of their passion, hard work, and the many hours they pour into the children!

We are looking to start a marketing committee and are hoping to find a few parents and/or community members who would be interested in helping to kick start it. If this is something that would be of interest to you, please contact Amy Levash ([amylevash@gmail.com](mailto:amylevash@gmail.com)).

## VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Thank you to Chrissy Knoske, Sarah Fortney, Jennifer Sapiro, Jennifer Lloyd, Megan Whitmore, Sara & Pete Christy for waking up extra early to welcome students and ensure safe drop-offs every week!

We have a few very important volunteer needs coming up (dates and more info to come shortly). Please reach out if you are eager to help with any of these.

**Yurt Village picnic table** setup volunteers needed! Picnic tables will need to be assembled right outside of yurt village in the near future. Looking for 4+ parents to help with this on a Saturday or Sunday.

**April 22nd is Earth day** and ROLES wants to make it into an Earth Week celebration by having classes create their own oak thickets. Parent volunteers will be needed to assist in this process during this memorable week. We are hoping for 4 parent volunteers per class.

**Yurt Village cleanup** volunteers needed! We want to make sure that Yurt Village is in great shape at the end of the year so that the nature center can start using it for their summer programming.

**Grant writing** for ROLES volunteers needed! If you have experience or an interest in grant writing or helping to secure grants, please consider joining this very important team.

**Kiln and kiosk building** volunteers needed. Will provide more information shortly.



THANK YOU



## PLANS

5/10: PTO Virtual Meeting 6:00-7:00pm

We will be electing new officers! There are 6 positions. Official voting will take place at our April meeting and any new officers will be guided by our current officers throughout the summer so they're ready to hit the ground running come fall. Feel free to email if you are interested! We would love to have you! Email: [roles.pto@gmail.com](mailto:roles.pto@gmail.com).

## WE THANK YOU!

Thank you to Ami Rosengren, Jacqui Fulcomer, the Malek family, and the Fortney Family for coming out in the chilly and wet weather to help Riveredge with their annual Egg Hike and Hunt! You all helped make the event a success!



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