



# ROLES PTO

Providing Parent Support for Students and Teachers at Riveredge

April 2022

## Earth Month

*By: Principal Mike Mullen*

### History at ROLES

The Milwaukee County Historical Society was on campus to provide Hands-On History presentations for 2nd-5th grade. The presentations included topics such as the importance of waterways, the first people of Wisconsin, and jobs that build Wisconsin.

### Earth Week

The staff and parent volunteers took part last week in restorative practices such as invasive species collection and creation of Oak thickets on the Riveredge property. The students planted over 100 Bur Oak in a number of locations to help develop these thickets and support declining Oak tree populations. These activities were created to support our philosophy around land restoration and the importance of a land ethic for everyone.

### Literacy

We've seen a number of our students who are using the warmer weather as an opportunity to get outside for reading and writing opportunities. The Riveredge property provides staff and students with abundant creative spaces to promote strong reading and writing skills. A shout out to our Literacy Coach Jade Cashman for supporting the teachers as they strengthen and develop literacy skills in a nature based setting.

### Climbing and Boating

We are working with Riveredge to plan boating and climbing opportunities for our students to help promote active learning adventures. Stay tuned for further details as we will need parent support.

### School Resource Officer

We are contracting with the Ozaukee Sheriff's Department and NOSD to provide our school with a police resource officer several times a month. In the past, Officer Nick would stop by when in the area but beginning next fall, Nick will have scheduled times that he will be at the school and can participate in a number of activities with our students. The advantage of participating in this program is having Nick's safety expertise on campus but also to provide our students with a positive law enforcement role model.

### PTO Board

President  
Greta Malek

Vice President  
Amy Pollard

Treasurer  
OPEN

Secretary – Communicating  
Sarah Neumann

Secretary – Recording  
Kass O'Harrow

Teacher Appreciation  
Ami Rosengren  
Brittne Dohl

Fundraising  
Sarah Neumann  
Greta Malek

Community Enrichment  
Chrissy Knoske  
Jessica Koepsell

### \* PTO OFFICER SLATE FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2022-2023 \*

- Voted was passed at April General PTO meeting -

- ◇ President: Greta Malek
- ◇ Vice President: Sarah Neumann
- ◇ Treasurer: Vanessa Goll
- ◇ Communications Secretary: Jessica Koepsell
- ◇ Recording Secretary: Kass O'Harrow

\*\* Please let us know if you would like to be involved in the committees (Staff Appreciation, Fundraising, and Community Enrichment). We would happily welcome and LOVE any help! Thanks! \*\*

# Updates

## STAFF APPRECIATION

"Of all the paths you take in life, make sure a few of them are dirt" - John Muir

As winter is slowly, but surely receding, we are able to see the newness of spring sprout in all the wonderful places on the Riveredge property. Just as the seasons change and spring begins a new cycle of life, it mimics all the changes we have weathered at our little school. We are so lucky to have a capable staff who is able to adapt to all the obstacles and modifications we have seen in the first three years of our young school. Our staff are the roots that are holding the dreams of this educational journey in place. Just as the seasons and storms make the trees bend and sway, our strong and adaptable staff has changed, adjusted and grew to become the stable base for new ideas, experiences and adventures to sprout.

There will always be changes ahead, but we are so grateful to have our amazing staff to inspire our children on this unique learning path.

In April we recognized both Paraprofessional and Administrative Professionals Day with a Starbucks gift card for the entire staff. April definitely warranted some warm cozy beverages this year! Teacher Appreciation week is May 2-6, and we are planning on showering our staff with appreciation throughout the week .

If anyone is interested in helping spread the love to our staff and has any ideas or skills they'd like to share with the Teacher Appreciation Committee, please reach out to Ami Rosengren [ami\\_marie@msn.com](mailto:ami_marie@msn.com) or Brittanie Dohl [brittnie.mahnke@gmail.com](mailto:brittnie.mahnke@gmail.com).

## FUNDRAISING

- ◇ Fundraisers are complete for this school year. Stay tuned for future fundraisers.
- ◇ **THANK YOU** to all who have contributed and helped with our fundraisers throughout this year. We have had a wonderful year and none of that would have been possible without all of the ROLES family, friends, and staff support.

## GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

On behalf of the Governance Council, we want to give a HUGE shout out to our amazing teachers at ROLES!! We truly have a group of the most dedicated teachers who put in tireless time and energy on a daily basis. We appreciate everything they do!

As we search for a new administrator, the next steps will be: CESA 6 positing the position and gathering an interview/hiring team, which will be made up of 3 governance council members and 2 parents. The team will review applications and depending on how many qualified applications we receive, we will bring in 3-5 candidates for an interview. We will then narrow it down to 2 candidates with a 2nd interview and a hike at Riveredge. We greatly value and respect our staff, but due to this being a supervisory position, staff will not be directly involved in the hiring process; however, the Governance Council is looking to find ways for the staff to be involved and have their voices heard and valued.

## COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT

### Fish Fest

Please mark your calendar for "Fish Fest" May 22nd from 3:00pm - 5:00pm. Let's meet at the Coop for some fishing fun on the pond and marshmallows around the bonfire!

### Last Day of School

The kids will celebrate the last day of school, Wednesday June 1st, hiking their way around the Riveredge property while participating in field day activities. A lunch will be provided for the students and staff by the PTO. Be sure to stick around after pickup to help send off our graduating 5th grade class! We need a variety of volunteers to make this day extra special for the kids. If you are interested in lending your personal talents for the planning process or able to volunteer the day of, please reach out to Jessica Koepsell or Christina Knoske of the Community Enrichment team.

## PLANS

Next PTO Meeting: **May 9th** at 6:00pm  
virtually. Please join!

Link 1 for first hour:

<https://meet.google.com/bdk-iuwx-wqz>

Link 2 if we need more than an hour:

<http://meet.google.com/rfs-kwxv-tpu>

A million and one thanks to all of the support during our spring fundraisers! We so appreciate it!

Thank you also to our fabulous governance council! You are all amazing and we are so grateful for you volunteering and helping making the school what it is!



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