

RIDGE PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MINUTES

September 9, 2002

Meeting called to order at 7.45 PM by Julie Engel, PTA President

The minutes from May, 02 were accepted.

Correspondence: *JeanMarie Broomfield* – The third grade teachers sent a thank you to the PTA for the staff welcome back luncheon. Mrs. Tarulli sent a thank you for the staff luncheon. Mrs. Trancho sent her well wishes along with a thank you to the PTA for her gifts.

Treasurer's Report: *Michelle Calcagni* - Opening balance of \$12,066.76; Debits of <\$1,029.83>; Credits of \$10.74 with an ending balance of \$11,047.67. Reviewed the proposed budget for the 2002/2003 school year. A motion was made to accept the 2002/2003 PTA budget. Motion passed.

Administrative Report: *Dr. Gerstenlauer* – Welcomed everyone back and encouraged new parents to join the PTA. Dr. Gerstenlauer spoke about Mrs. Trancho and her relocation to Vermont to become a building principal. Introduced Mrs. Mato as the Administrator of the Primary Center and thanked her for a doing a terrific job. Mr. Masera was introduced as the new assistant principal in the Intermediate Center. Dr. Gerstenlauer read off the names of the nine new faculty members added to the Ridge staff including: Kindergarten teachers, Ms. Sipala and Ms. Queirolo; 1st grade teacher, Mr. Shapiro; 3rd grade teachers, Ms. Verbarb and Ms. Sutherland and Special Education teachers, Ms. Klein (substituting for Mrs. Pearl) and Mrs. Keil; new gym teacher, Mr. King; new music teacher, Ms. Scully; new teacher's assistant, Ms. Graniello and new speech teacher, Ms. Garbe and student teachers - Ms. Imeidopf, Ms. Amico, Ms. Bruckner and Ms. Peck. Open Houses are scheduled for Tuesday, 9/10 - Kindergarten at 7:00 PM and 1st Grade at 8:00 PM and Thursday 9/12 - 2nd and 3rd grades at 7:00 PM and 4th grade at 8:00 PM. Introductions will take place in the gyms of both buildings and then parents will be asked to proceed to the classrooms. PTA Class Parent sign up sheets and November Parent/Teacher conference sheets will be in the classrooms for parents to use to sign up. Dr. Swenson's goal was to open full day kindergarten and have lower class sizes - it has been achieved. The current enrollment at Ridge School is 852 total students - 296 in the PC and 556 in the IC. Class sizes are: K with 18 students, 1st grade with 20 students, 2nd grade with 23, 3rd grade with 24 and 4th grade with 26. This year's district theme is "Raising Student Achievement". Dr. Gerstenlauer will go over the ELA and Math scores at the October PTA meeting. She thanked everyone for his or her support.

Mr. Masera - Discussed the plans for the 9/11 memorial project - daffodil planting. Every student and staff member in Longwood will plant a bulb at their respective school. At Ridge they will be planted in two locations - by the gate entrance and exit in front of the Intermediate Center and near the flag pole in the Primary Center. There will also be a moment of silence at 9/11. The administration needs PTA volunteers to assist with the planting between the hours of 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM. A sign up sheet was available. The new cafeteria in the IC is working out well. Encouraged the prepay system when buying lunch so money will not have to be carried out onto the playground.

Teacher Representative: *Dr. Gerstenlauer* introduced ESL teacher, Mrs. Teale LaBarbera. Mrs. LaBarbera provides an opportunity for students to speak English and improve on their speaking skills. Her goal is to have 100% face to face contact with parents because it fosters a great relationship.

Mrs. Mato - A workshop on diversity will be held on 9/26 from 7:00 to 8:00 PM at the LMS. The workshop will deal with bias issues, diversity and prejudice. Everyone is encouraged to come.

Jeanne Knudsen - Personally thanked Dr. Gerstenlauer for her contribution in lowering class size.

President's Report: *Julie Engel* – Introduced the Executive Committee. Went over the PTA roster. Reviewed the 2002/2003 schedule of PTA events. Encouraged everyone to visit the National PTA website for back to school and homework tips - www.pta.org. Bulk Islander tickets are available if anyone is interested. Suffolk District PTA will host its Cultural Arts Showcase on 9/28 in Copiague. A parliamentary procedure seminar will be held in Syosset. Read the proposed Longwood PTA Council bylaws changes for 2002/2003. Motion passed to accept the Council Bylaws changes. An amendment to the Ridge PTA bylaws was accepted allowing for membership to be increased to \$6.00 for the first member and \$5.00 for each additional member and to \$10.00 for a business membership. The PTA Staff Welcome Back luncheon received positive feedback. The Shared Decision Making Team is looking for PTA members. Anyone interested can see Julie. Anyone interested in acting as BOE representative can see Julie. Class Parent sign up sheets will be available at the open houses. It is the teacher's responsibility to chose their class parent. Parents who are selected to be Class Parent will be invited to the Class Parent Bagel Breakfast on 10/11. In order to be considered as class parent a person must be a PTA member, attend PTA meetings, help out on at least two committees, and retain the class list for the entire school year. Committee sign up sheets are available tonight. Spirit wear and Longwood duffle bags and lunch bags are still available for purchase. The 2002 NYS PTA Convention is being held in Rochester from 11/8-11/10. Anyone interested can see Julie. Thanked Dr. Gerstenlauer for the new PTA room in the Intermediate Center and the very large storage closet in the Primary Center.

Committee Reports:

Fall Fundraiser – *Michelle Calcagni* – Packets will be going home on 9/17 and will be due back on 10/4.

School Pictures - *Cathy D'Onofrio* - Scheduled for 10/28 and 10/29.

Newsletter - *Bonnie Bredes and Terre Arena* - First issue will be going out soon. The deadline for the next issue is 10/1/02.

Membership – *Terre Arena* – Encouraged everyone to join. Need 25% father participation. Please also join SEPTA - a very small PTA where every penny counts. Do not have to have a child in Special Education to become a member.

Cookbook – *Jean Andrew & Alicia Smith* – Will be working on it with further details forthcoming.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

Minutes taken by Judy Greco, PTA Recording Secretary.

Minutes typed by Julie Engel, PTA President

RIDGE PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MINUTES
October 7, 2002

Meeting called to order at 7.45 PM by Julie Engel, PTA President

The minutes from September 9, 2002 were accepted.

Correspondence: *JeanMarie Broomfield* – Received thank yous from Mrs. Mensher and Mrs. Melton for the welcome back luncheon.

Treasurer's Report: *Michelle Calcagni* - Opening balance of \$11,047.67; Debits of <\$304.36>; Credits of \$2,378.00 with an ending balance of \$13,121.31.

Administrative Report: *Dr. Gerstenlauer* – Welcomed everyone. Informed the parents that there had been a minor bus accident on Route 25 and Smith Road on 10/7 involving Bus #13. Dr. Gerstenlauer explained the procedure and stressed the fact that everyone was fine and there were no serious injuries. It is very important that all parents keep all emergency numbers up to date in the main office for situations such as this. Introduced two teacher representatives Mr. Shapiro and Ms. Sipala. The teachers shared their experiences with the new reading series, as well as describing class projects that integrated math, reading and writing. Dr. Gerstenlauer did a presentation on the ELA test scores/results from the 2001/2002 school year. Results were extremely positive.

Mr. Masera - Thanked everyone who assisted with the 9/11 daffodil memorial project. School picture day will be on 10/28 in the Intermediate center and on 10/29 in the Primary center.

President's Report: *Julie Engel* – The BOE recognition is scheduled for 10/24/02. A donation will be made to the NY State PTA Founder's Day contribution in the names of seven elected BOE members. October 10, 2002 is the BOE Community Forum. All are welcome. SEPTA will be hosting a workshop on 10/30 at 7:30 PM at the Middle School on ADHD. A representative from the Suffolk County Health Department will do a brief presentation on Lyme disease and West Nile at the November 4th, 2002 PTA meeting. Volunteers and donors are needed for the Longwood PTA Council Blood drive scheduled for 10/18. The Ridge PTA Family Challenge will be on 10/25 at 7:30 PM in the IC Gym. The cost is \$5.00 per family and it will be on a first come first serve basis. Flyers will be going home. Asked chairpeople in charge of an event who need to use the PTA room in the IC, to please inform Julie that the room will be use. Also mentioned that no young siblings will be allowed in the PTA room during daytime meetings. Thanked everyone who helped with the 9/11 Daffodil project. Anyone interested in chairing any committee or event for next year can see Julie or send in a letter of interest. Thanked Sue McKeon for volunteering to be the new webmaster. Spirit wear is available at a discounted rate. 4th grade activity volunteers will be informed soon about a scheduled meeting. Leadership training is available on 10/17 at the Ward Melville High School in E. Setauket. Presented Dr. Gerstenlauer with a Honorary Lifetime Membership. Mrs. Mato will be presented with hers at the next PTA meeting.

Council Report: *Julie Engel* - Council received a thank you from Carmen Ianotti for Honorary Membership. Received a thank you card from a 9/11 donation recipient. The Blood Drive is scheduled for 10/18. Volunteers and donors, especially O-, are needed. Dr. Swenson reported that it was the best opening in 15 years. Thanked everyone who participated in the 9/11 Daffodil project. Received \$100,000 grant from Patricia Eddington. The BOE's theme for 2002/2003 is "You're Right to Vote". Legislators went into HS senior social studies classes to discuss the importance of voting. Each PTA unit should send a representative to be on the BOE Legislative and Safety committees. Thursday, October 3 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM will be a "Building Successful Partnerships" workshop. There is absolutely no smoking on school property or grounds.

Committee Reports:

Fall Fundraiser – *Michelle Calcagni* – Everything going well. Deadline extended to 10/11. The new Innisbrook Cookie & Pretzel fundraiser will be going out in November.

Vision Screening - *Cathy D'Onofrio* - Flyers will be going home.

School Pictures - *Cathy D'Onofrio* - The IC is scheduled for 10/28 and the PC for 10/29.

Class Parent - *Michelle Calcagni* - Class Parent Brunch to be held on 10/11. Need to be a PTA member to be a class parent. Memberships will be available for purchase at the brunch.

Newsletter - *Terre Arena* - 10/9 is the deadline for the October issue.

Membership – *Terre Arena* – As of 10/7/02 we have 368 members with 21.25% being fathers.

Kash for Kids - *Bridget Cariello* - Will be collecting printer cartridges. Cartridges may not be brought to school with students on the bus. Drop off boxes are in the PC and IC.

A+ America and Box Tops - Please continue sending them in.

Fashion Show - *Sue Kennedy* - Scheduled for 4/10/03 at Majestic Gardens from 6 to 10:00 PM. Will be a sit down dinner.

Holiday Fair - *Cheryl Fiore* - This year's fair is scheduled for 12/13/02 in the IC Gym. Vendors will be charged \$25.00 to have a table at the fair.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Minutes taken by Judy Greco, PTA Recording Secretary.PM

Minutes typed by Julie Engel, PTA President

RIDGE PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
November 4, 2002

Meeting called to order at 7.40 PM by Julie Engel, PTA President

The minutes from the October 7, 2002 PTA meeting were accepted.

Correspondence: *Julie Engel* – A thank you was sent from Gloria Barnett, PTA Council Vice President to the Ridge PTA for supporting the PTA Council Blood Drive. Dr. Gerstenlauer sent a thank you to the PTA for awarding her a PTA Lifetime Membership. Mrs. Baker sent a thank you to the PTA for the welcome back luncheon. We will send condolence cards to Gina VanSicklen for the loss of her mother-in-law, Kathleen Valentine for the loss of her father and a get well card to Kathy Kellett after she sustained serious injuries in a car accident.

Treasurer's Report: *Michelle Calcagni* - Opening balance of \$13,121.21; Debits of <\$1,808.40>; Credits of \$33,217.13 with an ending balance of \$44,530.04.

Administrative Report: *Dr. Gerstenlauer* – Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for 11/13 and 11/14. This year's goal is to have 100% parent/teacher contact. If a parent is unable to attend, please contact the main office to reschedule a more convenient time. Fliers have been sent home inviting parents to attend an ELA Parent Workshop scheduled for Thursday, 11/14 from 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM in the IC All Purpose Room. Mrs. Mahoney, a 4th grade learning specialist and Mrs. Cichy, a 4th grade resource room teacher, will be hosting the workshop. Dr. Gerstenlauer introduced Mrs. Leah Zadow, the IC Librarian and Mrs. Barbara Dunkin, the PC Librarian. Each shared some of the activities they have planned for this school year and spoke about the newly built libraries.

Representatives from the Suffolk County Health Department gave a presentation on Lyme Disease and the West Nile Virus.

President's Report: *Julie Engel* – The December 9, 2002 PTA meeting is canceled. Anyone interested in free tickets for the LHS production of "Inherit the Wind" can see Julie Engel after the meeting. Show dates are 11/15 and 11/16. A thank you from Helen Thebold and Diane Cardinale, Board of Education elected representatives, was read thanking the Ridge PTA for its donation to the New York State Founder's Day Fund in each of the elected Board of Education member's names. A free parent/child RAP program is being considered by the PTA. The program was brought to the PTA's attention by Kathy Hanley, a first grade teacher at Ridge School. The Food and Toy Drive is underway. Bins will be located in both the PC and IC.

Committee Reports:

Fall Fundraiser – *Michelle Calcagni* – The PTA profited approximately \$15,000 from the Kastle Kreations fundraiser. The fundraiser will be available for pickup in the IC All Purpose Room on 11/13 and 11/14 during Parent-Teacher conferences. The Innisbrook cookie and pretzel fundraiser will be going home on 11/18 with an end date of 12/2 and a pick up date of 12/13 at the Holiday Fair.

Membership – *Julie Engel*– As of 1/4/02 we have a total of 380 members.

Spirit Wear - *Donna Gilmore* - Fliers are going home to purchase Nantucket Fleece "Longwood" sweatshirts at \$25.00 per shirt.

PARP - *Sue Kennedy* - A MESTRACT grant was submitted for this school year. Sue and Ms. Eileen Whitehead attended a MESTRACT workshop where they presented last year's winning grant PARP program. This year's PARP theme is "Read for the Sport of It". The Kickoff is scheduled for 1/31 at 7:30 PM at the Middle School. The program for the evening will be "The Magic of Reading".

Holiday Fair - *Cheryl Fiore* - This year's fair is scheduled for 12/13/02 in the IC Gym. Vendors will be charged \$25.00 to have a table at the fair.

School Pictures - *Cathy D'Onofrio* - School picture makeup date is scheduled for 12/5/02.

Newsletter - The deadline for the next issue is Friday, 11/8/02.

Bridget Cariello - Bridget will be working with Stephanie Columbia, School Social Worker, to offer a parent skills workshop to the parents of Ridge School. Last year's workshop was very successful. Further information is forthcoming.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM

Minutes taken by Judy Greco, PTA Recording Secretary.PM

Minutes typed by Julie Engel, PTA President

RIDGE PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
January 6, 2003

Meeting called to order at 7.45 PM by Julie Engel, PTA President

The minutes from the November 4, 2002 PTA meeting were accepted.

Correspondence: *JeanMarie Broomfield* – Thank yous were sent from the BOE President, Mr. A. Tarantino, and BOE member Mrs. Silvestri, for our contribution to the National PTA Founder's Day for BOE recognition. Mrs. Ostrowski sent a thank you for the pizza party her class won from the Fall Fundraiser. Cheryl Fiore sent a thank you to the PTA for the baby gifts.

Treasurer's Report: *Michelle Calcagni* - Opening balance of \$44,520.04.; Debits of <\$29,380.61>; Credits of \$13,042.83 with an ending balance of \$28,192.26.

Administrative Report: *Dr. Gerstenlauer* – Welcomed and wished everyone a happy new year. Spoke about first grade parent participation program workshop to be held each month. All are welcome to attend and support what the students are learning. Each month the topic will change and with 100% participation at the end, each child will receive a special diploma. The first workshop will be held on 1/30/03 from 7 to 8 PM. Flyers will be going home with information. There will be new report cards distributed for grades 2, 3, & 4. Ms. Gerber and the administrators will review the new report card format and answer any question at the February 3 PTA meeting. The fourth grade ELA tests will be on February 4, 5, and 6th. Michelle Herbst, Noel Calise and Kathleen Garbe, speech teachers, were introduced and spoke briefly about their role as speech teachers and their involvement in the Instructional Support team. Michelle Lalo presented a description of centers and guided reading in the classroom and about her support role in the classroom working collaboratively with teachers as well as her small group intervention.

Mrs. Lisa Mato - Spoke about the Science Fair - information will be going home soon. Response slips are due on January 24, "Summary of Project" due on January 31. Projects will be set up on April 11, Parent Open House will be on April 15 and on May 10 first place winners will be judged at Brookhaven National Laboratory.

President's Report: *Julie Engel* – Presented Dr. Gerstenlauer with a plaque for participation in the Lion's Club Eyeglass drive. The plaque was presented by BOE member, Mr. Miller, to the Ridge PTA at the December PTA Council meeting. A ski & ride passport is available to parents of 4th graders for a free lift ticket at local ski resorts. The Ridge Civic Association has formed a partnership with the Town of Brookhaven to acquire land located east of Raynor Road, which will become Ridge Community Park. To help with development residents can buy a brick, which will be used to create a walkway within the park. The possibility of the PTA collecting money to purchase brick from "The Parents, Students, Staff and Administration of Ridge School" was discussed. East Coast Black Belt Academy will be offering a Parent/Child "RAP" workshop at no cost to the PTA. The program dates are as follows: March 18, 2003 from 7 to 8 PM in the IC Gym for students in grades 2, 3, and 4 and their parents. March 25, 2003 from 7 to 8 PM in the PC Gym for students in grades K and 1 and their parents. The following are the winners of this year's Reflections - Literature - Morgan Barnett, Erin Kelly, Sara Rivadeneyra, Amanda Miccoli, and honorable mention Janell Hill. Photography - David Horowitz. Music - Sarah Allen and Tyler Whitman. Visual Arts - Michelle Engel, Ryan Sergio, Juleigh Schmidt, and honorable mentions, Ankur Sakaria and Ghani Naseer. The Reflections Award Ceremony will be held on 3/3/03 at 7:00 PM. Suffolk District PTA and New York State PTA mailings were reviewed. A letter written by Mr. William Miller, BOE member to Patricia Eddington was summarized which requested that Meagan's Law mailings become the responsibility of the local police departments alleviating the school district of the financial burden. Suggested concerned individuals send letters to Senator LaValle. The nominating committee was voted on and consisted of Sharon Weil and Gloria Barnett as the general members, and Donna Gilmore, Margaret Kelly, Terre Arena as the Executive Board members with Michelle Calcagni at the alternate.

Board of Ed Report - *Jeanne Knudsen* - Attended the 12/12 BOE meeting. Spoke about the HS state assessment results. New reading program.

SEPTA Report - *Jeanne Knudsen* - Next meeting will be on 1/29 at the Middle School. Speaker will be Diane Chen who will speak on dyslexia.

Council Report - *Julie Engel* - Genine Schwinge, Council President, thanked everyone for his or her hard work and dedication to the PTA. Dr. Swenson felt the district had a successful first early "snow" dismissal. The district has hired a new transportation director. The 2003/2004 district budget is being developed. There has been positive feedback about the progress the students are making. Highlighted Kevin Story, a LHS student, who was chosen as All Eastern in Music. The district safety committee reported on Gang Awareness programs. Guest speakers at previous safety committee meetings have been Jill Porter and Debra Edwards. The council nominating committee will be formed at the January council meeting. The PTA Council talent show committee will have its first meeting on 1/27. Anyone interested in volunteering to help out with the talent show can attend the meeting at 6:30 PM on 1/27.

Committee Reports:

Cookie Dough Fundraiser – *Michelle Calcagni* – Very successful. Profited approximately \$3,000+.

Holiday Fair – *Julie Engel*– Very successful.

PARP - *Sue Kennedy* - The kickoff will be on 1/31/03 at the Middle School. Paperwork and flyers will be going home soon.

Book Fair - *Donna Gilmore* - February dates still need to be confirmed.

Newsletter - The deadline for the next issue is 1/13/03.

Membership - Terre Arena - We have 376 members to date.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Minutes taken by Judy Greco, PTA Recording Secretary.PM

Minutes typed by Julie Engel, PTA President

RIDGE PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

February 3, 2003

Meeting called to order at 7.45 PM by Julie Engel, PTA President

The minutes from the January 6, 2003 PTA meeting were accepted.

Correspondence: *JeanMarie Broomfield* – Mrs. Mensher's 2nd grade class wrote thank yous to the PTA for the 2nd & 3rd grade cultural arts program.

Treasurer's Report: *Julie Engel* - Opening balance of \$28,192.26.; Debits of <\$2,031.71>; Credits of \$1,418.52 with an ending balance of \$27,579.07.

Administrative Report: *Dr. Gerstenlauer* – Welcomed everyone. Spoke about the grade one parent/student program. The second session of this 1st grade parent program is scheduled for 2/27/03. The topic will be "Interactive Writing". Tracy Gerber, IC Guidance Counselor, along with Mr. Ron Masera presented a Powerpoint presentation on the new 2nd, 3rd, & 4th grade student report cards. They welcomed and answered questions from parents.

President's Report: *Julie Engel* - Science fair boards will be given out at no charge to any student who participates in the science fair. Parents will be responsible for picking up the science boards. Approximately \$50.00 has been donated to this date for the Community Park brick. If anyone would like to make a donation, send to Julie Engel. Read a statement written by the PTA Council President, Genine Schwinge, regarding the importance of voting with regard to the school district's upcoming budget. Marine Rescue # 369-9829. The National PTA's 107th Annual Convention is from 6/20 - 6/22 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Ridge School was notified by the DEC that parking is not permitted along the fence line adjacent to the NY State property. Please use the area behind the PC for additional parking. The Eastern Suffolk BOCES dinner is on March 13. See Julie if you would like to attend. The Tupperware fundraising paperwork will be going out in March. The Ridge PTA bylaws are due to expire in October 2003. Volunteers are needed to be on the Bylaws committee. Judy Greco, Recording Secretary, will chair the committee. A sign up sheet was passed around asking for volunteers.

Board of Ed Report - *Jeanne Knudsen* - Dr. McIntyre, the JHS Principal was honored at the 1/9/03 BOE meeting. The early retirement incentive for teachers was discussed.

SEPTA Report - *Jeanne Knudsen* - Last meeting was on 1/29/03. Guest speaker, Diane Chen, spoke about Dyslexia.

Council Report - *Meredith Stark* - The last council meeting was on 1/27/03. Volunteers are needed for the district's Legislative committee. Dr. Swenson was not in attendance due to illness. The council nominating committee was elected.

Committee Reports:

Reflections - *Julie Engel* - Thirteen Longwood students went to the NY State level. One of the thirteen was Ridge student, Amanda Miccoli in the visual arts category. Our Reflections ceremony will be held on 3/3 at 7:00 PM. Invitations will be going out shortly.

Nominating Committee - *Gloria Barnett* - The nominating committee met at 6:30 PM on 1/27/03 to put together the slate for the 2003/2004 school year. The election will be held at our April PTA meeting. The slate is as follows: President - Jeanne Knudsen, 1st Vice President - JeanMarie Broomfield, 2nd Vice President - Kim Lombardi, Treasurer - Judy Greco, Recording Secretary - Terre Arena, Corresponding Secretary - Margaret Kelly, Council Delegates - Gloria Barnett and Meredith Stark.

PARP - *Sue Kennedy* - Kickoff went well. Today is the official start date for PARP.

Book Fair - *Donna Gilmore* - The book fair will be on 2/4 in the PC and on 2/6 & 2/7 in the IC. The evening book fair will be held in the IC All Purpose room on 2/7 from 4-7 PM.

Fashion Show - *Sue Kennedy* - Scheduled for 4/10/03 from 6-10 PM at Majestic Gardens in Rocky Point. Tickets are \$35.00.

4th Grade Tee Shirts - *Cathy D'Onofrio* - Shirts will be sold to 4th graders at \$10.00 per shirt.

4th Grade Memory Book - *Julie Engel* - Memory Book is almost complete. Every 4th grade student will receive a memory book and pen as a gift from the PTA. Memory books will be distributed to students during the last week of school.

Spirit Wear - *Donna Gilmore* - Items are still available for purchase. Shorts are available this year.

FFN - *Alicia Smith* - Family Fun Night is scheduled for March 14 at 7:30 PM in the Middle School Activity Court. 4th Grade student volunteers will be selling refreshments.

Cookbook - *Jean Andrew* - The deadline for cookbook recipe entries has been extended until 2/14.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Minutes taken by Judy Greco, PTA Recording Secretary.PM

Minutes typed by Julie Engel, PTA President

RIDGE PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

March 3, 2003

Prior to our meeting we celebrated with our Reflections Ceremony. Immediately following the Reflections Ceremony, Mr. Lonergan, the Assistant Superintendent of Student Services Personnel gave a brief presentation on the NY State Budget and its impact on the Longwood Central School District.

Meeting called to order at 7.45 PM by Julie Engel, PTA President

The minutes from the February 3, 2003 PTA meeting were accepted.

Correspondence: *Julie Engel* - The PTA received a thank you from Cathy D'Onofrio for the baby gift basket.

Treasurer's Report: *Michelle Calcagni* - Starting Balance: \$27,579.07; Debits: <\$14,678.28>; Credits: \$9,048.06 with an ending balance of \$21,948.85.

Administrative Report: *Dr. Gerstenlauer* – Dr. Gerstenlauer thanked Mr. Lonergan, Assistant Superintendent for the informative budget presentation and for responding to parent questions. Thanked Mrs. Maria Kilmartin and the Reflections Committee for a great job. Parent Conferences are scheduled for 3/19/03 - it will be a half-day of school - lunches will not be served. If a conference was not requested by the teacher but as a parent, you would like to meet with your child's teacher, please send a note in stating that fact. Interim reports will be distributed on 3/10/03. After school clubs have begun for a total of eight clubs, with eighteen teachers supervising these clubs. Three hundred and thirteen students from grades 2, 3 & 4 are enrolled in clubs. On 3/6/03 first grader, Kathleen Fahey, will represent Ridge Elementary School at the BOE meeting by leading in the Pledge of Allegiance. Dr. Gerstenlauer introduced the teacher representatives for the evening - Mrs. Terri Cohen, Art Teacher - Mrs. Cohen discussed her involvement in local art contests, the PTA Reflections program and her participating in the PTA PARP program. Ms. Eileen Whitehead, outlined her role as Instructional Support Teacher and provided information regarding the science fair.

President's Report: *Julie Engel* - The weather related early dismissal procedure was discussed. The position of the Ridge PTA is that phone calls will not be made for a weather related early dismissal. Parents are encouraged to listen to the radio, call the district hotline number and watch News 12 for weather related early dismissal information. As of this date the PTA has received approximately \$213.00 in donations for the community park brick. A total of \$300 is needed. If anyone would still like to make a donation, please send in your cash donation to Julie Engel. The Tupperware Fundraiser paperwork will be going out sometime in March. If anyone is interested in chairing a committee for next year, please send in a letter of interest to Julie Engel. The Ridge PTA will be hosting a "RAP" (Respect Among Peers) program presented by members of the East Coast Black Belt Academy on 3/18 from 7 to 8:00 in the IC AP room for parents and students in grades 2, 3 and 4. This program will also be presented on 3/25 from 7 to 8:00 PM in the IC AP room for parents and students in grades K & 1. On March 11 and 12 grades K & 1 will participate in a cultural arts program presented by members of Megan's Law ("I am the Boss of My Body") during the school day. A survey/questionnaire with general questions regarding voting is going to be distributed to all students to bring home sometime over the next few weeks.

Council Report - *Margaret Kelly* - A representative from Mather Hospital gave the council a presentation on breast cancer. Dr. Allen Gerstenlauer, Assistant Superintendent, spoke regarding the state's budget impact on the Longwood Central School District and expressed the need for all adults in the district to utilize their right to vote. The Longwood PTA Council Talent Show was discussed.

Committee Reports:

4th Grade Tee Shirts - *Cathy D'Onofrio* - A letter to 4th grade parents will be going home shortly. Shirts will cost \$10.00 per tee shirt.

4th Grade Memory Book - *Julie Engel* - The memory book is almost complete. Just waiting on club photos to be processed.

4th Grade Activities Committee - *Julie Engel* - Non-4th grade parent volunteers are needed to work at the 4th grade barbecue on 6/12.

Newsletter - Will be going out next week.

PARP - *Sue Kennedy* - In full swing and going well. The winning classes will be announced at the next PTA meeting.

Book Fair - *Donna Gilmore* - Everything went well. All paperwork and payment has been submitted.

Fashion Show - *Sue Kennedy* - Flyers will be going home with the students soon. The show is scheduled for 4/10 from 6 to 10 PM at Majestic Gardens in Rocky Point. Tickets are \$35.00 per person. Tickets will be sold on a first come first serve basis.

Spirit Wear - *Donna Gilmore* - All orders are in and spirit wear will be going home with the students next week.

Cookbook - *Jean Andrew* - Cookbooks will be sold at \$10.00 per book. The prepayment form will be going home with the kids next week.

FFN - *Alicia Smith* - Approximately 140 tickets have been sold as of this date. FFN is scheduled for 7:30 PM at the MS on 3/14.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM

Minutes taken by Judy Greco, PTA Recording Secretary

Minutes typed by Julie Engel, PTA President

RIDGE PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

April 8, 2003

Meeting called to order at 7.45 PM by Julie Engel, PTA President

The minutes from the March 3, 2003 PTA meeting were accepted.

Correspondence: *Kim Lombardi* - The PTA received thank yous from Mrs. Mensher's 2nd grade class and Mrs. Markee's Kindergarten class for the books given to them from the PTA Book Fair. The PTA received a thank you from the Schwinge family for the sympathy card sent for the loss of Genine Schwinge's grandmother. A thank you from Mr. Tarantino, BOE President, for the \$5,535 donation the Ridge PTA made to the Longwood Central School District for cultural arts.

Treasurer's Report: *Julie Engel* - Starting Balance: \$21,948.85; Debits: <\$5,032.13>; Credits: \$9,953.22 with an ending balance of \$26,869.94.

District Budget Presentation - *Mr. Lonergan* - Assistant Superintendent of Student Services Personnel gave a brief presentation on the effects of the NY State budget on the Longwood Central School District. A district's proposed budget was also discussed. A question and answer period followed the presentation.

Administrative Report: *Dr. Gerstenlauer* - Thanked Mr. Lonergan for the informative budget presentation and for responding to parent questions. Dr. Gerstenlauer added how we have come so far, we should reflect upon all the positive changes like full day kindergarten. At the May PTA meeting, we will discuss and review the school report card which will be published in the 4/10/03 edition of Newsday for the 2001/02 school years ELA, Math and Science state test scores.

Teacher Representatives - Mrs. Coster and Mrs. Savona - 1st grade teachers gave a slide presentation from their fairy tale nursery rhyme unit.

Mrs. Ryan and Mrs. Heuer, 4th grade teachers spoke about the recently completed ELA testing and the upcoming state math and science testing.

President's Report: *Julie Engel* - The Ridge Civic Association sent a certificate of appreciation to the members of the Ridge PTA and Ridge School thanking everyone for the \$300.00 donation towards a brick for the Ridge Community Park project. If anyone is interested in chairing a committee for the 2003/2004 school year, please send a letter of interest to Julie Engel or sign up on the sheet that was passed around. Volunteers (without 4th grade students) are needed to help at the June 12 4th grade barbecue. A signup sheet was passed around. Free tickets are available for the Longwood High School production of "Music Man" for 4/11 at 7:30 PM or for 4/12 at 12:00 PM or 7:30 PM. The Longwood PTA Council is assuming the responsibility for overseeing Longwood Day since the Longwood Alliance backed out. Suggestions for what the Ridge PTA should do at Longwood Day would be welcomed. Brainstorming ideas to promote voting. The PTA will be providing fruit platters for every class in celebration of Health Awareness Week. The PC will receive theirs on 4/29 and the IC will receive theirs on 4/30. Ridge PTA Splash day is scheduled for 7/23/03. Tickets will be \$19.00 per person.

Nominating Committee - The PTA slate for the 2003/2004 school year was read by Margaret Kelly as follows: President, Jeanne Knudsen; 1st Vice President, JeanMarie Broomfield; 2nd Vice President, Kim Lombardi; Treasurer, Judy Greco; Recording Secretary, Terre Arena; Corresponding Secretary, Margaret Kelly and Council Delegates, Meredith Stark and Gloria Barnett. The slate was voted in unanimously and became the incoming elected Executive Committee for the 2003/2004 school year.

Council Report - *Margaret Kelly* - The district budget was discussed. Different ideas to promoting voting were discussed. The Longwood Council Talent Show is scheduled for May 3, 2003 at 7:00 PM. Longwood Day was also discussed.

Committee Reports:

PARP - *Alicia Smith* - The classes with the highest participation and who will receive a pizza party are as follows: Kindergarten - Mrs. Queirolo, 1st Grade - Mrs. Hanley and Mrs. Peattie, 2nd Grade - Mrs. Broderick, 3rd Grade - Mrs. Gallardo, and 4th Grade - Mrs. Smidt. PARP and the Book Fair will take place in October of 2003, earlier in the year than in previous years.

Fashion Show - *Jeanne Knudsen* - Approximately 200 tickets have been sold. Thanked everyone and looking forward to Thursday evening.

4th Grade Tee Shirts - *Cathy D'Onofrio* - Approximately 90 4th grade tee shirts have been ordered. The sale will be extended one more week.

4th Grade Activities/4th Grade Memory Book - *Julie Engel* - Every child in 4th grade will receive a memory book compliments of the PTA. The 4th grade barbecue is in the works and volunteers are needed.

Spirit Wear - *Donna Gilmore* - Should be coming in soon. Excess items will be available for purchase at Longwood Day.

FFN - *Alicia Smith* - Two hundred and twenty tickets were sold. Successful evening.

Cookbook - *Jean Andrew* - The final deadline for orders is 4/11. The books are being presold for \$10.00 per book. Books will be in for delivery the week of June 9.

Tupperware Fundraiser - *Julie Engel* - The deadline for submission is 4/10.

Plant Sale - *Sue Buckman* - Scheduled for 5/7, 5/8 and 5/9. Volunteers are needed. Preorders will be available for pickup on 5/8.

Newsletter - *Terre Arena* - The deadline for the final newsletter of the 2002/2003 school year is on 4/22.

Membership - *Terre Arena* - We ended the year with 402 members.

New Business: *Jeanne Knudsen* - Motioned to donate various spirit wear items to the SEPTA Chinese Auction scheduled for 5/9/03 beginning at 6:00 PM. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM

Minutes taken by Judy Greco, PTA Recording Secretary - Minutes typed by Julie Engel, PTA President