

Meeting notes: PTSO Meeting May 14th, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 PM by Lisa. It ended at 6:12 PM.

Participants:

Missy Zulandi, Arunima Advani, Amy Oldknow, Michelle Akridge, Taylor Gibbs, Sasha Garg, Reese Vance, Allison Haas, Liz Ryan, Lori Bryant, Hilarie Jennings, Chelsea Northman, Rose Frazee, Christina Williamson, Rupa Vasireddy, Lisa Zimmerman, and Anju Wadhwa

>>Principal's update (by Miss Northman)

- Teacher appreciation week went very well last week.
- It's a busy time for the school and students. We are in the thick of AP testing this week. SOLs are next week.
- Prom is this Friday.

>>SEAC – Riverside Award

Lisa: Varsity Club won a SEAC award. This award is for Outstanding Inclusive school clubs.

Dr. Frazee: We submitted applications for Mr. Oblass and Mr. Sikora. Other RVHS winners were Inclusive Peer – Daniel Aforo (student) and Outstanding Inclusive Support Staff – Taylor Berman (teacher). The last two were nominated by fellow staff, parents, or students.

SEAC awards on June 4th, 2025.

>> Michelle Akridge – Senior Class Representative

- Multiple events happen between now and end of the year for senior class.
 - Pick up caps and gowns: May 1st and 2nd.
 - "What's next" photos were taken (for where students are going).
 - Prom: May 16th
 - AP testing last week and this week.
 - Graduation slides due: May 17th.
17% of seniors have completed the slide so far. Students should be the ones doing this, not parents.
 - We have more time for parents to submit the slides for the Jumbotron, which needs to be marketed more. Miss Akridge will send out a message on Remind about the jumbotron.
 - The senior class trip to Hershey Park is coming up.
 - Community awards night is coming up soon.
 - Ramp up ceremony: June 4th
PTSO will be providing breakfast for seniors on that day.
 - Practice for graduation: June 10th.
It is mandatory.
 - Graduation: June 11th at 5:45 PM.
Early release that day for everyone – at 12:30 PM. This is new this year.

>>Amy Oldknow

- Fundraising Ideas:
 - On homecoming we could do an event for fundraising
 - Trivia Night could be used to raise funds. They want to work with PTSO on this.
 - Back to school
 - Community yard sale

- Lisa: In the past we have talked about parking spots for students, but we could not come up with parking lots that students would want.

>>Lori Bryant

LEAF Update:

- School funding: Although there is considerable uncertainty around federal funding for public schools, it's important to note that federal funds account for only 5% of Loudoun County's school budget. At the local level, the Board of Supervisors has fully funded Loudoun County Schools, including an average raise of 6.5% for teachers.
- Policy 5070 - School Field Trip: Policy 5070, regarding field trips, is currently under review. If you have any feedback, please share it with the School Board via www.lcps.org/policyreview.
- Leaf Representative Opportunities: Lastly, if you're interested in representing your elementary, middle, or high school for LEAF (Loudoun Education Alliance of Families), please contact your school's principal to express your interest. The first meeting for the upcoming school year will be held on August 18, 2025.

>>Lisa – President's update

- Departing board members – Christina and Rupa have been with us for 4 years
 - Departing student members – Sasha and Ava are leaving us as well
 - New student members – Taylor Gibbs and Allison Haas came for the meeting
 - Website – Mr. Anderson hasn't announced the new PTSO website to the school community yet. We will send the minutes from every meeting to Larry so he can upload them on the website.
 - Jumbotron needs to be marketed more. For some reason we are not getting a good response from parents.
 - Spirit wall – It will be semi-circle around the RAM outside. This project is stalled for now. The quote for building the spirit wall was beyond our expectations. We are looking at other smaller vendors now to build it for us.
 - Elections – We elected the new PTSO board members. Lisa read through the list. Everyone ran unopposed.
- Lisa (President)
Liz (Communications)
Missy (Hospitality)
Carrie (Membership)
Gina (Fundraising)
Anju (Treasurer)
Arunima (Secretary)

>>Christina – VP Hospitality

- Hospitality Recap:
 - Luncheon and gift cards for teacher/staff appreciation
 - Lunch for National Assistant Principal and Principal Week
 - Bundt cake and gift cards for Secretary and Admin Week
 - Lunch for School Nurses Day
 - Breakfast for Seniors on June 4th – Chic Fil A breakfast
 - We raised about \$1800 which paid for Manhattan Pizza for teacher appreciation lunch. Also raised \$1200 from parents. \$1300 donated by businesses. This was given out in gift cards and raffle.
- Scholarship Committee for seniors – 8 students have applied so far, out of which four were not PTSO members. We will pick the winners from the four who are PTSO members.

>>Rupa – Treasurer

- Treasurer Update and Budget:
Income and expenditure will even out this year. \$8K plus in hospitality, which is usually our biggest expenditure. Blanket sales are doing well.