

RIVERDALE



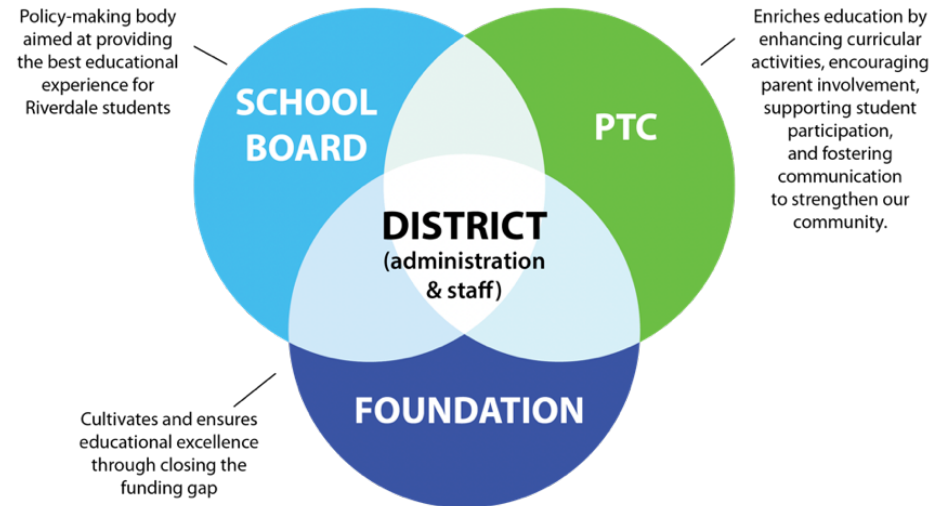
Riverdale School Foundation

RIVERDALE
PARENT TEACHER CLUB

Riverdale 101

By Heather Bogaty, Riverdale parent

Overview of the Riverdale School District, Parent Teacher Club, and Foundation Programs and Activities for Parents, Students and the Riverdale Community



Riverdale 101 Introduction. This handbook provides an overview of the Riverdale School District, its governing bodies and supporting organizations. This alphabetical, reference guide also includes descriptions of Riverdale’s long-standing traditions, programs, and events. Each section of the handbook contains a brief summary that is current as of January 2019 along with links to find additional details online. The intent of this information is to provide insight as well as the overall picture of the value Riverdale provides. Hopefully, this handbook will enable you to match your abilities and interests with Riverdale’s unique needs and inspire you to become more involved. Riverdale 101 is produced and maintained by Riverdale parent Heather Bogaty. Acknowledgement goes to Diane Moran, Carissa Barrett, Shelby Quintos and Nikki Brenneke for their contributions.

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Websites of Riverdale. The following sites will assist you to find current updates/services.

School District Website: riverdaleschool.com

Grade School Website: riverdaleschool.com/domain/9

High School Website: riverdaleschool.com/domain/8

Athletics Website: riverdalesports.com

Online Payment System: or-riverdale.intouchrecepting.com

ParentVUE/StudentVUE Website: parent-riverdale.cascadetech.org/riverdale

Riverdale PTC Website: riverdaleptc.org

Riverdale Foundation Website: riverdalefoundation.org

Riverdale Directory Website: riverdaledirectory.org

Riverdale Neighborhood Association: groups.yahoo.com/group/riverdaleonline

Riverdale Boy /Girl Scouts Troop 110: boyscouttroop110.org

Riverdale Parents Facebook Group: Dunthorpe/Riverdale Moms and Dads Group

Riverdale After School Program: riverdaleafterschool.com

NOTE: Email distribution lists are maintained by the Riverdale Directory. Email updates are spoked out to each organization. If you are not getting regular updates from any of the organizations below, please contact them via email.

Riverdale Grade/High School/District: info@riverdale.k12.or.us

RGS PTC: RGSParentPackSubmission@gmail.com

RHS PTC: RHSPTC.communications@gmail.com

Riverdale School Foundation: info@riverdalefoundation.org

Volunteer Appreciation Coffee. Publicized in the PTC parent pack newsletter near the end of each school year, a barista serves volunteers their favorite coffee drink at the Riverdale Grade School, free of charge to the volunteer, to show appreciation for a year’s worth of hard work.

Volunteers. Parents are encouraged to volunteer. If parents cannot work at school during school hours, there are other times to volunteer. Please sign up on the parent Volunteer Opportunities page online at the PTC website at least once during the school year.

RGS: riverdaleptc.org/volunteer-opportunities-at-rgs
 RHS: riverdaleptc.org/volunteer-opportunities-at-rhs

Without everyone’s help, the PTC couldn’t offer all of the fantastic events and activities. You may also sign up at the PTC volunteer table at Back-to-School Night or with some teachers in their classroom.

All adults on campus should be wearing a visitor badge – two different photo ID badges differentiate staff from parent volunteers, while visitors will have a more generic visitor badge. This helps students and staff know which adults are “safe” and with whom to use more caution. Parents who plan to spend a good deal of time volunteering in the school, classrooms, clubs, cafeteria, events or field trips should get a volunteer badge. To do so, a background check needs to be on file. See process to become a Verified Volunteer in the About Us > Volunteering section of the Riverdale website.

Volunteer Expectations

- **Dependability:** Children and staff look forward to the volunteer’s commitment to report at an expected time.
- **Professionalism:** The volunteer is a role model for children in dress, manner, and behavior.
- **Confidentiality:** The volunteer must respect the confidentiality of sensitive information. Children and their families should not be discussed outside the program of school environment.
- **Communication:** The volunteer’s success depends on effective communication. Asking questions and following directions are key components.

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Riverdale School District Overview. The Riverdale School District 51J is an independent, public school district. Since its founding over 130 years ago in 1888, the District has enjoyed widespread community interest, involvement and support. Riverdale School District encompasses parts of the neighborhoods of Riverdale, Riverwood, Palatine Hill, Abernathy Heights, and Dunthorpe and currently serves over 400 families from these surrounding neighborhoods as well as the greater Portland Metro area. The District is comprised of two schools: Riverdale Grade School (RGS) and Riverdale High School (RHS). The Grade School offers instruction to almost 400 students, preschool through 8th grade. The High School is attended by approximately 250 students. The award-winning educational programming and strong community involvement continues to attract families to the District and to its neighborhood.

Riverdale History. Riverdale School District began with 15 students in a one-room schoolhouse. In 1920, the growing district moved into a new brick building in its current location on SW Breyman Avenue. The school soon became the heart of the Riverdale community, housing an exceptional K-8 program.

In 1991, Oregon enacted a law requiring all public school districts to provide a K-12 education. The Riverdale community came together to pass a bond to support the creation of a high school program in a second location. Riverdale High School opened its doors in 1996 and quickly became a model for families seeking an outstanding, small high school experience.

After nearly 90 years of housing the grade school program in the same building, the Riverdale community voted once again to approve a bond measure to allow the School District to build a new two-story grade school building in 2010 as well as remodel several facilities on the Grade School campus. The LEED-Gold facility utilizes cost-effective, sustainability measures while integrating the latest innovations in school design.

School Board. The five-member Riverdale School Board is the policy-making body of the School District responsible for guiding and overseeing the educational program for students living within the District. To accomplish its role, the Board:

- Determines the long-range direction of the District
- Establishes policies that direct the instructional and support programs
- Communicates with the community
- Employs and evaluates the Superintendent
- Negotiates with employee groups to determine salaries and benefits
- Approves the annual budget

Teacher Appreciation Lunches. Each month, parents help feed our hard-working teachers and staff. At the Grade School starting with 8th grade in September and working back to kindergarten/preschool in June, each grade level is assigned a month to organize and deliver a delicious lunch to be enjoyed by our Riverdale Grade School team of teachers and staff. A similar system is used to organize lunches during teacher conferences at RHS. Your Room Parents/Grade Connectors will be in touch as your student's grade level takes on this project.



Teacher Appreciation Annual Event. Teacher Appreciation consists of one day at RHS and four days in the Spring at RGS when Riverdale's amazing teachers and staff are celebrated. Each day has a specific theme and culminates with a special, catered meal. Additional information may be found on the PTC website at riverdaleptc.org/teacher-appreciation-week.

Scrip/eScrip. Do you shop locally at Zupan's or Market of Choice? Enjoy having drinks at the Gemini? A frequent customer at Amazon.com or online at Anthropologie, Cost Plus World Market or Crate & Barrel? If so, you could be raising funds while you shop at these and hundreds of other vendors by using the simple and convenient eScrip program and AmazonSmile program. Visit the PTC website and search for Scrip for more information on how to sign up.

Special Friends Day (coordinated by the Riverdale Foundation). Special Friends Day, held in the Spring, is a chance for preschool through 2nd grade students to invite a special friend to spend time with the student at school. A special friend can be a grandparent or other family member, a nanny, a neighbor, a coach, a Sunday-school teacher, or even an older sibling or parent. During this fun event, your child's special friend will be treated to refreshments and entertainment in the Commons followed by a visit to your child's classroom. For questions, please email the chair at riverdalesfd@gmail.com.

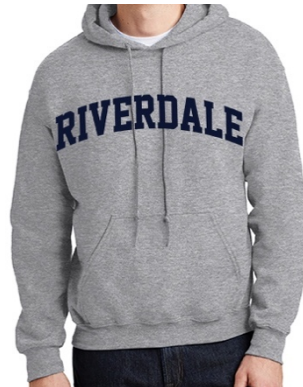


Spirit Wear. Show your Riverdale spirit by purchasing Riverdale-branded apparel for the whole family. Embroidered or heat-screened logos, as well as personalization are available on many items. These high-quality products come from Kadmark Print & Embroidery in Tualatin and are processed monthly with a two-week turnaround. You will be notified when your items are available for pick up at the school's front desk. Make purchases on the PTC

website to benefit the Booster Club, which supports Riverdale Athletics at both schools.

RGS spirit wear--
www.riverdaleptc.org/product-category/spiritwear-rgs/

RHS spirit wear--
www.riverdaleptc.org/product-category/spiritwear-rhs/



All Riverdale School Board regular meetings are open to the public. Meetings are held at the Riverdale Grade School Commons, unless otherwise noted. Public-participation time is scheduled at the end of each regular meeting to allow community members the opportunity to share information or concerns about educational issues.

In addition to the regular meetings, the board has scheduled work study sessions. Work study sessions are special meetings in which the board meets but does not intend to take any action. Work sessions enable the board to gather information and discuss and review various aspects of an issue. Similar to regular meetings, work study sessions are open to the public.

Board members are elected from the district at large to serve four-year terms. If a board member vacancy occurs, a new board member is appointed by open vote of the School Board. At the next scheduled board election, this seat will be open for selection by district voters. Applicants must reside within school district boundaries for at least one year and be registered voters.

Budget Committee. The Budget Committee has 10 members: the five elected school board members and five citizens appointed to three-year terms by the board. To be eligible, the applicant must live in the district for one year prior to application, live and be registered to vote in the district and not be an officer, agent or employee of the district. The budget committee is responsible for deliberating on the proposed budget submitted by the Superintendent and for sending the approved budget to the School Board for adoption. The committee normally meets two to three times (April-May) during the budget approval process and encourages public participation during the time set aside for public testimony.

Site Councils. The Riverdale Grade School and High School Site Councils provide leadership, direction and support to the school community to achieve school improvement, placing the overall interest of the student first; and addresses district and school priorities in accordance with Oregon Administration Regulations for the 21st Century Schools Council. Parents are elected by parents for two-year terms.

Riverdale School Parent Teacher Club (PTC). The Riverdale School Parent Teacher Club (PTC) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization independent of the Riverdale School District and Riverdale Foundation. Members, parents, teachers and staff pay no dues. The Riverdale Parent Teacher Club has a governing

executive board at each school.

PTC Mission. The mission of the PTC is to enrich Riverdale's education by enhancing curriculum and activities, encouraging parent involvement, supporting student participation, and fostering communication to strengthen Riverdale's community.

At Riverdale Grade School, the PTC's focus is to enrich the educational experience through:

- **Classroom Enrichment:** Art Literacy, garden education, financial aid for books/field studies/lunch, grants for core subjects, special performances, author visits
- **Teacher Support:** classroom funds, Room Parents, Teacher Lunches, Teacher Appreciation Week
- **Extracurricular:** Community School, athletics support
- **Community Building:** Back-to-School events, Carnival, Playgroup, Field Day, guest speakers, Book Fair, Craft Fair, Movie Nights, New Family Liaison, Grade Connectors, Auction, Party Packs
- **Grade School Support:** Lunch Program volunteers, weekly and quarterly newsletters, website updates, marching band uniforms, facilities improvements, equipment, technology, supplies

At Riverdale High School, the PTC provides support (financial and otherwise) in these areas:

- **Teacher Support:** training, classroom funds, conference meals, teacher appreciation
- **Classroom Enrichment:** college room, special project grants, teacher grants, performances/speakers
- **Extracurricular:** athletic support through Booster Club, Drama, other club/activity support
- **Community Building:** New Family Potluck, Grade Connectors, Booster Club events, Auction, Party Packs
- **RHS Support:** weekly newsletter, Directory, dances, club participation, field studies and other activities.

PTC General Meetings. PTC general meetings are open to the public and a great time to learn about PTC activities including fundraisers, special programs and activities along with updates from the Principal and/or Superintendent. These meetings are important for communication and are a great way to learn how to



School Supplies (RGS). School supply packs are a favorite RGS PTC program. The last thing you want to be doing in August is running all over town looking for sold-out school supplies. Our pre-packaged supplies are specifically designed for your student's grade. Each May/June, you may purchase a pre-packaged school supply kit for the next school year. The RGS

PTC is thrilled to offer this convenient program to parents; cost savings, consistency of supplies in the classroom, and fewer to-dos on your back-to-school list are a few of the many benefits. More info may be found at riverdaleptc.org/category/back-to-school.

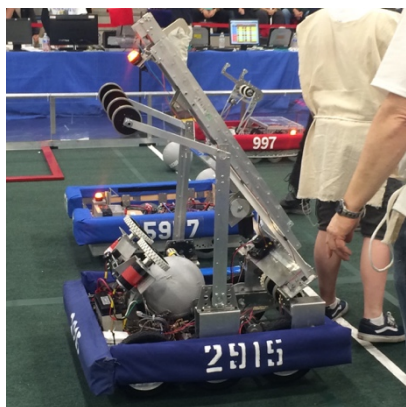
All 5th-8th graders should view the band supplies list on the school's website. Band supplies are not included in PTC school supply packs.

Please note, in addition to the items listed on the grade list, each student needs to bring:

- a backpack (or binder depending on grade: 5th-6th grades = 4" D-Ring Zipper Binder, 7th-8th grades = five 1-inch binders)
- shoes suitable for PE
- a personally labeled water bottle
- 6th graders will need a Scientific Dual Power Calculator
- 7th/8th grades will need a TI-84 graphing calculator and headphones with built-in microphone (must have compatible Chromebook jack; not iPhone 7 or higher model)

Scouts BSA. Scouting activities abound for boys in 5th through 12th grades at Riverdale. Riverdale's Troop 110, established in November 1923, is a great way for students to learn life and leadership skills, spend time in the outdoors with friends, and give back to the community. More info may be found at: boyscouttroop110.org. For boys and girls in grades 1-5, there is a Cub Scout program at Riverdale, Pack 110.

Registration Day. Registration Day is held at both schools in mid-August to streamline the process of registering your new or returning student. At this event, parents pick up a packet of forms for your family/student(s), flyers with back-to-school information and pay fees. PTC members are available with PTC info as well. Parent/guardian signatures are required to complete the registration process prior to the start of school. More details are sent out over the summer. If you are out of town on this date, alternative arrangements are available.



Robotics. The Robotics season starts in early January when high school students gather to learn details about the year's game, get the kit of parts (game pieces and robot parts to help get the team started) and gain access to the rule book. Then, the team has six weeks to design and build a robot that passes inspection at competition and then can compete at that game. Many volunteer opportunities may be found along with more information at: www.team2915.com.

Room Parents (RGS). Room parents work with classroom teachers to provide support in the classroom based on individual teacher needs. This involves helping with Halloween/Winter/Valentine's Day parties, assistance with PTC activities such as class donations for the auction, and organization for Teacher Appreciation Week. Sign up to be a Room Parent by contacting the PTC Vice President or by signing up in your child's classroom on Back-to-School Night.

get involved. Several meetings feature a guest speaker on an informative topic, such as: brain development, parenting, managing social media, college preparedness, etc. At the Grade School, meetings are typically held in September, November, January, March, and May. Meetings usually run 45 minutes to one hour but can go longer if there are more items to cover or a guest speaker. On the last Tuesday of every month, the High School PTC gathers for coffee, featured guest speakers, and general PTC updates.

PTC Operating Budget. Where does the PTC operating budget come from? The PTC organizes several fundraising events to enhance Riverdale children's education and schools' sense of community. The most important of these events is the annual PTC Auction. Other fundraising programs/events include: Booster Club, Book Fair, Carnival, Original Works and Spirit Wear.

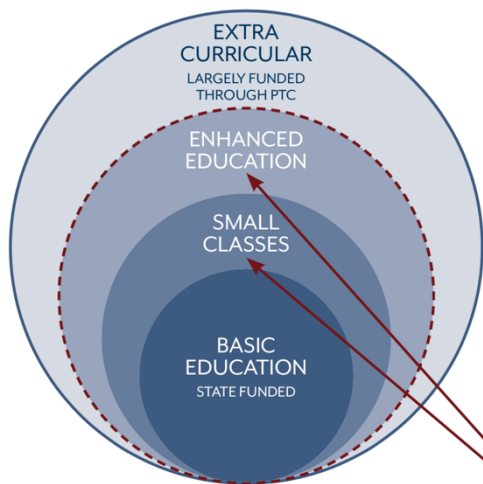
PTC Executive Board. Who is on the PTC Executive Board? Each year, an executive board is voted in as officers. Through their ongoing commitment to the bylaws and budget approved by the membership, they uphold the mission of the PTC. They serve in their role for two years, except for the President-Elect who shadows the President for one year. The President oversees all operations. The Vice President recruits volunteers. The Communications officer oversees the PTC weekly newsletter and overall communications. The Secretary keeps the meeting minutes. The Treasurer pays vendors, reimburses expenses and handles money matters. At the high school, there is an additional officer to coordinate Booster Club activities that support athletics.

Foundation. The Riverdale School Foundation is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization and was founded in 1994 in response to several legislative changes implemented across the state. The Foundation raises money during an annual campaign held in October and November.

The Riverdale Foundation is independent of the PTC, the School Board and the School District and was created to help bridge the gap between Oregon state funding and the actual cost of a Riverdale education. The funds raised through the Foundation's annual campaign go directly to the school and support small class sizes, music, art, P.E., libraries and other important elements of a Riverdale education.

KIDS LOVE WHEN THEIR PARENTS ARE INVOLVED





OUR SMALL CLASSES AND ENHANCED EDUCATION program differentiate Riverdale from other public schools. The added costs of providing these services are offset through the Local Option Levy, tuition, and our collective contributions to the Riverdale School Foundation.

What's the difference between the Riverdale PTC and the Riverdale School Foundation?

Do I need to contribute to both?

The Riverdale School Foundation and the Riverdale PTCs both raise money for Riverdale schools. The primary difference lies in how these two separate organizations allocate those funds. The Riverdale School

Foundation contributes money directly to the District's operating budget. This means the Foundation helps fund some of the District's highest priority expenses, like teacher salaries and educational programming. Simply put, PTC supports community building, extracurricular programs, non-tuition financial aid, and educational enhancements while the Foundation puts teachers in classrooms. One past PTC president described the Foundation as the 'cake' at Riverdale and the PTC as the 'frosting'. As anyone who has eaten dessert can attest, both are important.

Annual Riverdale Foundation Campaign. The Foundation raises funds through the Annual Campaign each Fall from parents, community members, staff, and alumni. Since 1994, the Foundation has raised almost \$20 million for the Riverdale School District.

School funding from the state varies and does not keep pace with the actual cost of a Riverdale education. This gap can run as high as \$5,000 per student, some of which is covered by proceeds from the Local Option Levy and other funding sources, such as tuition and special grants. Donations make up the difference. The Foundation hopes resident and transfer families will contribute \$3,500 per

Parent Grade-Level Nights (RHS). Plan to attend your student's grade-specific, highly informative RHS Parent Night where you'll discover everything you need to know to help your child succeed in high school. Each session is tailored to the unique needs of a particular grade level, so be sure to attend the appropriate evening(s). The High School Principal and Counselor speak quickly to try to fit everything into this comprehensive, ninety-minute meeting. The PTC provides refreshments prior to the beginning of each session.

Parent Pack Weekly Email Newsletter. Each week, the PTC emails out a newsletter called Parent Pack, which highlights and provides updates for upcoming events and activities in our community. To make a submission, please provide a fully drafted entry along with a graphic to RHS Parent Pack at RHSPTC.communications@gmail.com or for the RGS Parent Pack at RGSParentPackSubmission@gmail.com. Submissions are due by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday of each week for inclusion in the Friday newsletter.

Party Pack Parties. Come join the party! Party Pack parties are another important PTC fundraiser. These parties are hosted throughout the year by small groups of parents. The hosts cover the costs of the party so all the proceeds from ticket sales are donated back to the PTC. Past parties have included wine dinners, family picnics, themed parties, tailgates, lectures, moms' nights, and beyond.

The goal is to include the entire Riverdale Community, from in-district to out-of-district, from fourth generation to new arrivals, from preschool to high school. Shared experiences strengthen the fabric of our community; everyone is encouraged to participate. Parties are revealed during the cocktail hour of the auction when sign-up sheets become available. Some parties sell out that night. Parties that do not sell out at the auction are opened up on the PTC website.

Playgroup. Riverdale Community Playgroup is a long-standing community tradition and is a great way for parents, babies, preschoolers and kindergarteners to make friends. Playgroup is open to Dunthorpe/Riverdale families as well as all Riverdale students and siblings ages birth through kindergarten. Older siblings are welcome. The playgroup rotates through members' homes as well as other fun locations around town. Past events have included BBQs, berry picking, playground visits and more. You can also find us on Facebook at Dunthorpe & Riverdale Playgroup.

school students, and the PTC is always looking for more help. The volunteer shift is 11:15-1:00, weekly, every other week or monthly. Visit the volunteer page on the PTC website to sign up to volunteer to serve lunch. If you have additional questions, contact the PTC Lunch Coordinator at lunchservice@riverdaleptc.org. To order lunch, visit www.orgsonline.com. Create a new account with School Code: 213RGSOROR.

At RHS, the lunch program is provided at the Maverick Café by Xpress Catering. Lunch may be purchased with cash, debit or credit card or by depositing funds to a student account via check or online payment. Xpress Catering offers pre-order options as well. For more information, visit their website at: xpresscatering.com.

Neighborhood Association. Community news and discussion on issues of importance for residents served by the Riverdale School District. More information may be found online at: www.groups.yahoo.com/group/riverdaleonline.

New Family Program. To help families meet each other, the New Family Liaisons welcome new families and help them get connected with various grade-specific gatherings throughout the year (including summertime).

- **New Family Potluck (RHS).** The New Family Potluck takes place in late Summer each year at Riverdale High School. Both new and returning RHS families are invited to share a favorite dish, make new connections and reconnect with old friends. Lots of information about the upcoming school year is shared at this event.
- **New Family Welcome Lemonade (RGS).** The New Family Welcome Lemonade takes place each year in August near the end of summer vacation. All Riverdale Grade School families are invited to help welcome our newest community members. Lemonade and cookies are provided.

Oregon Battle of the Books. Riverdale brings teams from both schools to compete in an annual competition to encourage and recognize students who enjoy reading, broaden reading interests, increase reading comprehension, and promote cooperative learning and teamwork among students. Students in 3rd-12th grade, regardless of ability are encouraged to participate.

Original Works (RGS). The Original Works fundraiser is designed to support the Art Literacy program. Students create art, which is then reproduced onto products to purchase. Riverdale receives 50% of all funds generated through product sales.

child and that tuition families will contribute \$500 per child. Families who meet suggested levels and add \$1,000 to their total donation will be recognized with an asterisk (*) signifying “extra mile” status on the donor list. While giving at the suggested level (or above) is very important as it is needed to maintain Riverdale programming and staffing levels, it is understood that every family has different circumstances and that not all families can meet suggested giving levels. What is important is that families participate in a personally meaningful way, regardless of the amount given. The Foundation is grateful for any donation. Monthly giving is also an option that works well for some families. A primary Foundation goal is for everyone to feel a part of the very special Riverdale Community.

If I pay tuition, should I still contribute to the Annual Campaign? Absolutely! The Riverdale School Foundation recognizes that tuition families already pay a significant amount to the District so their children can attend Riverdale schools. However, tuition is always lower than the actual cost of educating a Riverdale student. As a result, the Riverdale School Foundation asks tuition families to contribute during the Annual Campaign but at a much lower suggested giving level than resident or transfer student families.

May I contribute to the Riverdale School Foundation outside of its Annual Campaign? Yes! The Riverdale School Foundation runs its Annual Campaign in October and November. However, donations may be made year-round. Pledges made during the campaign may be fulfilled through April 30th of each year.

Does the Riverdale School Foundation contribute to financial aid at Riverdale schools? Yes. In an effort to make Riverdale as accessible as possible, the Riverdale School Foundation raises money for tuition financial aid. Every donor to the Foundation’s Annual Campaign has the option to earmark all or part of their donation for financial aid. That money is then allocated across financial aid recipients per District policy.

What is the Riverdale School Foundation’s “overhead”? The Riverdale School Foundation works very hard to maximize the amount it gives to the District every year. All Foundation board members are volunteers, and the organization has no paid staff. As a result, the Foundation is able to maintain a 3-4% overhead which means that 96-97% of every dollar raised goes directly to funding education at Riverdale. As a point of comparison, many non-profits have overhead rates of 10-25% or more.

What if I still have more questions? Please feel free to call or email an officer of the Foundation at (503) 303-8470 or info@riverdalefoundation.org. Or, visit the Riverdale Foundation website at: www.riverdalefoundation.org.

Programs and Events

12th Grade Activities/Graduation. Parents of 12th grade students work together to provide social and graduation-related activities and programs for the current graduating class. Programs include fundraising, Prom, Senior Exhibition, Senior Awards Reception and the all-night Graduation Party. Every 12th grade family will be asked to pay the senior activities fee, which covers most of the costs of these events and activities. The PTC provides financial assistance to any student needing it for 12th grade activities.

7th/8th Grade Activities/Promotion. The 7th/8th grade activities are designed to build a strong social community among the students of Riverdale. Riverdale 7th/8th graders will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of appropriately designed and parent-driven events, such as: Friday-night Dancing School, Winter Formal dinner/dance, and year-end Promotion activities for 8th graders. In addition, the leadership class organizes the Fall dance and the Field Day dance. A fundraiser usually occurs to help raise money for a gift to the school from the 8th grade class. To participate in these activities, families pay the 7th/8th grade fees on the PTC website. The PTC provides financial assistance to any student needing it for 7th/8th grade activities.

Art Literacy (RGS). Art Literacy is a hands-on program providing opportunities for you to get involved in the classroom. Three times a year, after a volunteer training by the Art Literacy Chair in the RGS Commons, you present an artist or movement and facilitate a related art project in each classroom. You do NOT have to be artistically inclined to help out with this program! Art lit volunteers also assist with installing art at the high school for the annual District Arts Night.

Auction (PTC). Every year, the Riverdale PTC hosts the Auction to build community and raise money. The format may vary year to year, but events typically include games, silent and/or live auctions, a paddle raise, food, cocktails, and FUN.

Why does Riverdale PTC have an auction? The PTC Auction raises money to support the dozens of programs at the Grade School and High School. The Auction is the single largest source of revenue for the PTC and as such, depends on you to show up and be part of this event.

What goes on at Auction? The annual Auction provides a fun chance for parents, teachers, staff and community members to come together to support Riverdale schools. During the cocktail hour, Party Pack sign-ups,

Grade Connectors. Grade Connectors work with the New Family Liaison Chairs to help welcome new families as you make the transition to Riverdale, including: introducing you to families in your grade, sharing grade-level information, suggesting possible camps or sports registrations that others are doing, and encouraging volunteer opportunities throughout the school year, etc.

Grants. Funds are provided by the PTC for special items/programs outside of the School's budget, such as: field trips, arts support, speakers and assemblies, club and project support.

Holiday Fair. The Holiday Art & Craft Fair assembles wares from fabulous local artists as well as student artists. The vendors are carefully selected to provide patrons with high quality handmade products. Little creators sell very charming, handmade creations. Family activities that celebrate the holidays are enjoyed during this festive, PTC tradition.

Hospitality. Throughout the year, the PTC provides hospitality during events, such as: Back-to-School Nights, PTC Coffees, RHS Parent Grade-Level Nights, RHS New Family Orientation Night, and RHS Prospective Student Night, etc.

Ice Cream Social. The Back-to-School Ice Cream Social takes place in early September in the Grade School Plaza. The social is open to the entire Riverdale Community, including Riverdale's wonderful teachers and residents. This fun PTC tradition allows kids and parents to meet other families at the school playground while enjoying complimentary ice cream!

Ladies' Stag (Lunch/Hike/Dinner). Ladies' Stag is a longstanding Riverdale tradition for all women in the greater Riverdale Community: community members, current school parents, former school parents--all are welcome! In the morning, ladies enjoy a hike, followed by lunch. Then in the evening, ladies meet for drinks and heavy appetizers. Buy a ticket for either event (or both!) on the Riverdale PTC website.

Library Assistance (RHS). At Riverdale High School, parents volunteer to cover the library desk (check-out help, etc.) for the Librarian while she takes her lunch break, so students are able to use the library during lunch.

Lunch. The PTC coordinates all aspects of the RGS Lunch Program, including sourcing vendors and serving lunch. Healthy Habits Catering, the lunch provider at the Grade School, offers both monthly, hot and sack lunch as well as daily sack lunch options. Many daily volunteers are required to serve lunch to our grade

Emergency Preparedness. To prepare the Riverdale/Dunthorpe community for emergencies, such as an earthquake, ice-storm, gas leak, or other catastrophic event, the neighborhood is divided into sectors. Leaders are being trained for each sector with the intention of forming a web of connected, organized and prepared people in their region of the community to be prepared to handle an incident. Leaders work with a team of other leaders in our community. Each sector organizes, prepares for and “reports in” during and after an incident.

Extended Care. Riverdale After School Program (RAS) offers before- and after-school care to all Riverdale families. It is conveniently located inside RGS 7:30-8:20 a.m. before school and 3:20-6:00 p.m. after school. (2:20-6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.) The program offers monthly tuition options as well as 10-time passes and the ability to drop in. For pricing and more information, visit the RAS website at: www.riverdaleafterschool.com.

Family Movie Nights. Bring your chairs and blankets and enjoy family-friendly movies outside on the RGS playground (weather permitting) or inside the Commons. Concessions are available, so come early and stock up on movie fare.

Field Day (RGS). For over 80 years, Field Day at Riverdale Grade School has brought the community together to celebrate the end of the school year and the beginning of summer. It starts with a fun-run and mini-parade, then progresses into field events for the grade school kids to participate in—athletes and non-athletes alike. It is a day of fun, including food carts and a sponsored coffee cart. All grade school children and preschoolers in the community are invited to participate. A Field Day dance is held for 6th-8th grade students.

Financial Aid. PTC has a financial aid fund to assist parents with paying for select fee-based activities. If your family qualifies after completing the below-income form, the District Office makes a recommendation to the PTC Executive Board prior to its monthly Executive Board meetings. The recommendation will include the form completed by the parent with the name redacted.

Garden/Outdoor Classroom (RGS). With seven garden beds, a circular seating area, two picnic tables, a garden shed, composters, irrigation and white boards, Riverdale Grade School’s outdoor classroom and garden (located next to the District Office and behind the covered play area) is a bountiful outdoor education area used by the entire school for studies in a variety of core subjects. Students come to plant, explore, and learn a myriad of lessons throughout the gardening life cycle.

silent auction bidding and/or themed games are lively activities. Dinner follows, along with bidding on live auction items of experienced-based packages. The evening concludes with dancing—so fun!

Is there a paddle raise? Typically, each year the Principals craft their wish lists, and the PTC asks the community to raise their paddle at the Auction to support these needs. Unlike other funds raised at the Auction, the money contributed by the community during the paddle raise is ear-marked for these specific Principal requests. In past years, paddle raises have focused on emergency preparedness supplies and technology upgrades.

How can I be involved in the Auction? You may be involved in so many ways. You may donate a gift card for businesses/services valued at \$50 or more or a bottle of wine/spirits valued at \$25 or more. Corporate sponsorship has some great perks. You may also choose to help on the night of the event or sit on the auction committee. The most important way to be involved with Auction is to buy a ticket via the PTC website to attend this fantastic event. Note there is a first-timer ticket at a reduced price. Or, go for the extra perks and buy a patron ticket or a patron table.

What is a patron? Patrons choose to pay a little extra for their auction tickets. In addition to being recognized at the event, patrons get express check-in, free drinks and free rides to and from the event. To see all the ticketing option details, go to the auction page on the PTC website.

What if I can’t go? The PTC would still love (and need!) to receive financial support from non-attendees. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the event online. If you have your heart set on one of the fantastic silent or live items (after they are revealed!), you can enlist a proxy to bid on and pay for their item if you win...but it’s better to be there!

How/what to donate? Please contact the Auction Chair to donate at auction@riverdaleptc.org. The PTC loves gift certificates, experiences, vacation homes, bottles of wine valued at over \$100 (or cases of wine to serve at the auction), seats to sporting events, fishing, hunting, golf or car racing expeditions, etc. Please do not donate something that requires the purchaser to pay more money to receive (e.g. 10% off new home construction, 3rd month free at a health club).

Back-to-School Coffee. Reconnect with other parents and celebrate the beginning of another great school year on the first day of school at the PTC Back-to-School Coffee for a beverage and treats outside the Commons (RGS) or Gym Lobby (RHS).

Back-to-School Packet. The PTC's Back-to-School Packet serves as an informative resource, includes an annual calendar, flyers for back-to-school events, lunch ordering information, school supply lists and reminds you of some of the amazing programs and activities the PTC supports that include enhancing curriculum activities, encouraging parent involvement, supporting student participation, and fostering communication to strengthen Riverdale's community.

Book Club. Riverdale parents meet periodically in the Maverick Room at the high school for snacks and discussion about a chosen book. Open to anyone interested in attending. More details may be found at: riverdaleptc.org/category/bookclub.

Book Fair. One of Riverdale's long-standing traditions is the Riverdale Grade School Scholastic Book Fair. This week-long event offers you an opportunity to purchase great books before the gift giving season gets into full swing. The money raised is spent on new books for the Grade School library. Please consider volunteering to work the cash registers for a shift or two.

Booster Club. The Riverdale Booster Club partners with the District Athletic Department to provide a full athletics experience for all Riverdale student athletes. More info at: riverdaleptc.org/booster-club-2. The Booster Club fundraises for the following expenditures not covered by the athletics budget:

- Athletic trainer services, health and safety
- Basketball tournament hospitality
- Banners, plaques and school records boards
- Team uniforms, equipment, coach apparel, and supplies at both schools
- Coaching clinics/education at both schools
- Senior athlete recognition
- Gym floor resurfacing at both schools

You can become involved with the Riverdale Booster Club by:

- Purchasing a membership/becoming a sponsor
- Volunteering to sell concessions, fundraising events, etc.
- Purchasing Spirit Wear
- Attending games to cheer on the Mavericks and Falcons!

Carnival. The PTC hosts a Carnival every fall for the entire family. Join us for traditional games, cake walk, pie-eating contest and food carts. Fun for all ages. More information may be found at: riverdaleptc.org/category/carnival.

Carpool. If you are interested in forming a carpool to school, please contact the

District Office to get a link to the current carpool map. Not many families near you? Consider doing a mixed High School/Grade School carpool. Note the Grade School's day begins at 8:30 a.m., and the High School's day begins at 9:00 a.m.

Classroom Support. You are encouraged to become active volunteers in the Grade School classrooms. Riverdale School District has a long tradition of outstanding parent participation. When you share your ideas, talents, and time, you make the school a better place. Please complete your volunteer form available in the Back-to-School Packet, in the Grade School Office, or on the PTC website. For the safety of all students, visitors and parents must sign in at the front desk and wear a volunteer badge.

Community School. The Riverdale PTC created the Riverdale Community School to provide high quality before- and after-school enrichment classes for Riverdale students. Registration for classes is online and placement is on a first come, first served basis. Look for details on the PTC website for specific classes, days, and times – sign up quickly to guarantee a spot!

Directory. The Riverdale Directory is a handy, community phone book updated each year by the PTC and made available to Grade School and High School families and the Riverdale community. Each summer, families have an opportunity to review and update their contact information to be included in the annual Directory printed in the fall. New school families are encouraged to submit their information through the password-protected portal at riverdaledirectory.org.

Drama Club. Riverdale and the surrounding Dunthorpe community have a strong tradition of support of the Drama Club going back into the early 1900s. This tradition continues today with productions done in partnership with the PTC, professional theater organizations and strong parent involvement.

Dunthorpe Garden Tour (coordinated by the Riverdale Foundation). The Dunthorpe Garden Tour began in 1971 and remained a cherished neighborhood tradition until 2002. After an 11-year hiatus, the Tour returned in 2013 to honor the 125th anniversary of the Riverdale School District. In 2018, the Tour occurred again with four remarkable private estate gardens, along with the Riverdale Grade School Outdoor Learning Garden. Souvenir programs are included with garden descriptions and plant lists for each garden. More than 100 volunteers work on the Tour which benefits the Riverdale School Foundation, a key funder of programming at the Riverdale School District.