

**We are excited to invite you to participate in**

# **RACE BACK TO SCHOOL**

**an annual fund-raising  
walk-run-bike-a-thon for all NEK schools**

**AUGUST 19, 2018**

Kingdom Trails Association and The Riverside School are organizing this inaugural, community, school fund-raiser for all area elementary and middle schools on August 19, 2018 on Kingdom Trails. We recognize that most need more funds, either generally or for specific goals. An event like this has the potential to bring in upwards of \$2,000 for each participating school. Grandparents, students, young athletes, parents, and everyone in between: **this is a way to raise money for your class or school, celebrate our community of wonderful schools and educators, and enjoy KTA's awesome trails in the last days of summer** vacation.

## **The Event**

Based at the Wildflower Inn, the event will take place on a designated loop system of the Kingdom Trails, offering different degrees of difficulty for bikers, runners, and walkers. Participants – individuals or relay teams of up to four - will receive points for each loop and for completing "Fun Stations" within the two-hour competition time. Check-in starts at 8:00 am, the event then runs from 9:00 am - 11:00 am, followed by music, prizes, and food.

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## **How to Fund-raise for Your Class or School Through Pledges**

There are two ways to raise funds for your school through pledges:

- ◆ Participants can score points for each loop and fun station; the more loops and fun stations completed, the more points. So, it's not just about going fast, loop after loop, but rather stopping at the fun-stations. Each will have different potential points, depending on degree of difficulty. Points translate into pledge donations. For example, student Mary Smith and her Dad got a pledge of \$1 per point from their neighbors; on their bikes, between loops and Fun Stations, they garner 23 points = \$23 for their school.
- ◆ Participants can line up pledges of high dollar amounts. For instance, Mary's kindergarten-age brother Max, teams up with his grandmother and they get two pledges for \$5 per point from friends; they walk the course together garnering 10 points = \$50 for their school.

**All funds raised by your school go directly to your school.** Your school is responsible for getting the word out in your school community, organizing participants, and collecting pledges after the event.

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## **Registration and Pledge Log-in**

There are two separate steps:

1. All participants must register on-line through an event registration link on KTA's website, which will go live at the end of May. The registration fee is \$5 (+\$2.33 website admin fee) for individuals age 14 and under and \$10 (+\$2.61 fee) for those 15 and over. The

registration fee includes a day pass for Kingdom Trails. **Registration must happen online, in advance; there will be NO race day registration.**

2. All pledge participants must log-in their pledges no later than Friday, August 17. There will be a designated link for this process on the KTA website as well.

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### How to Participate as a Class or School

This is a community event and we are striving for community participation!

- ✓ **Decide to participate and designate a Race-Back-to-School contact person by May 31.** All communication and organization between host organizers and your school will then go through that one individual. Let us know who that is by contacting Angela Norton at [synergy.wellness@icloud.com](mailto:synergy.wellness@icloud.com) or 207-265-6361.
- ✓ Aim for 10% student participation from your class or school - parents, families, community members. Use the KTA website to review your list of participants and their pledges; each school will have a discrete log-in.
- ✓ Commit 3-4 event-day volunteers to help at the registration desk, logging loops, etc.
- ✓ Create and host a Fun Station on the course to support and engage participants – such as a fitness challenge, face-painting, music, charades. These stations add points but are also a great opportunity for us to interact with our larger school community members: the lovely people we never get to meet because our kids go to different schools. We hope schools will be creative and clever in their designs.

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### How to Participate without Fundraising for a School

We hate to turn anyone away from such a fun event, so we have spaces for 60 participants who just want to compete for points. This means individuals and families visiting from out-of-town can also join in simply by registering for the event without logging pledges. We are keeping this number small this year, but our plans are to grow next year.

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### Winning Prizes

There will be prizes in each of four event categories:

- Individual Youth (ages 5-9)
- Individual Youth (ages 10-14)
- Team Youth (ages 5-14)
- Team Family (mixed ages)

**Point Winners** are the top point earners from each category. **Pledge Winners** are the top grossing participants from each category. Prizes will be awarded at a same-day, post-race celebration with trophies to the top overall individual or team point earner and the top individual pledge winner. **Most important of all: this is going to be a great day to be together as a community.**

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### EEK! We've never done this before!

We at Riverside hope you'll have patience with whatever glitches come up. They surely will. We're grateful to KTA for their enthusiasm, extraordinary event experience, and desire to support the youth in our community. **Please give us ideas ahead of the event to make it even better.** Create great fun stations. Set up a post-race bake-sale. **And give us feedback through a questionnaire at the end of the event so we can improve it next year.** Even if you don't participate, please come to observe and enjoy the day. We aim to grow the event to include more schools and more non-school teams. We also hope to find alternate hosts who'll organize the event with KTA in future years, thereby sharing proceeds from registration fees.

