

PTA MEETING MINUTES

Franklin Avenue

Elementary

Date/Time 5/10/2021 7:00 P.M. | ***Meeting called to order by*** Alice Tom

April Meeting Minutes: Approved by Annemarie Agosta and Christine Perone

I. Special Presentation by Superintendent – Marco Pochintesta

- The 2021-22 Pearl River School District Budget (3R's: Return/Recover/Regrowth) introduces a new, nationally recognized academic program, Project Lead the Way, which will focus on bio-medical science at the Pearl River High School, and growth in technology teaching in response to student interest. The budget also includes an elementary school guidance counselor, which fulfills a NYSED requirement, and an expansion of academic intervention services with targeted support for math. The budget also supports continued professional learning and curriculum development for instructional staff at all schools. **To read full details about the PRSD 2021-22 Budget, click here.** <https://bit.ly/33AcANO>.
- **Capital Projects:** Final-phase of completion scheduled for this summer. At Pearl River High School, the new library media center, science labs, music and art wings, have transformed the interior of the school's building and addresses overcrowding in the school hall and main stairs. This summer, Pearl River Middle School will undergo a transformation with a redesigned health office, and guidance counseling suite, as well as the expansion of the gymnasium with handicap accessibility. The completion of a new music wing with three classrooms will enhance the school's fine arts program and also establish a handicapped accessible connection to the gymnasium.

II. Principal's Report – Dr. Talleyrand

The 2020-2021 school year is rapidly coming to an end. Plans for end-of-year events are underway for students to enjoy.

- **Primary Project Grant:** Early intervention Program to support our youngest learners in K-2nd grade. This national evidence-based foundational program identifies young children who show emerging school adjustment difficulties and provides them with one-on-one time with a specially trained and supportive adult. Through play, Primary

Project addresses children's school adjustment difficulties and increases their chances for success. Implemented successfully in the Nyack School District.

- **Field Day:** This year, Field Day will be organized by grade level, with our kindergarten, first and second grade having Field Day on Thursday, May 20th and our third and fourth grade will participate on Friday, May 21st. Please remember to send your child to school with a refillable water bottle.
- **Fourth Grade Promotion Ceremony: Save the date of Thursday, June 17th at 10:30 a.m.**
A rain date will be scheduled the following week if needed. Promotion will be held outdoors on our blacktop and follow NYSDOH Guidance for End of Academic Year Celebrations. Two adult guests per family are invited to attend the ceremony. Additional information regarding COVID-19 procedures and screenings will be sent home in June. Parents may sign their 4th grade child out in advance to leave after the ceremony. More details to come.
- A **Fourth Grade Day** during the last week of school for our students to gather together and enjoy their last couple of days at Franklin Avenue Elementary School is being planned. The Fourth Grade Day will consist of a pizza lunch followed by different activities for students arranged by our special area teachers. Activities will be both indoor and outdoor and meet the varying interests of our students. There are currently no plans for Fourth Graders to have a MS Visitation Day.
- **Second Grade:** Beginning on Monday, May 17th, our Second Grade will combine cohorts A and B in the same classroom. Students will be seated at their own desk, socially distanced at 3 feet. Our second graders have already started the process of acclimating to being in a larger group and getting to know each other through combined PE classes.
- **Erin's Law:** Earlier this year, the New York State Education Department provided guidance and resources to schools to comply with NYS Law S.4070-B/A.2577-B, also known as "Erin's Law." The law is intended to help children, teachers, and parents identify sexual abuse, and to provide awareness, assistance, referral, or resource information for children and families who are victims of child sexual abuse. Named for Erin Merryn, an abuse survivor and activist against child sexual abuse, Erin's Law requires public schools to teach age-appropriate, child sexual abuse and exploitation prevention to students in kindergarten through eighth grade. In the next few weeks, Mrs. McCabe, School Psychologist, and Ms. Cervantes-Libassi, School Social Worker, will conduct introductory lessons with students in all grades. These clinicians have many years of experience conducting sensitive conversations with children and will explain to students that while these kinds of situations are quite rare, they will teach them how to be prepared to deal with a potential abuser. An informational session on Erin's Law was held on May 6th for parents to ask questions about the curriculum during the meeting. If you were unable to attend the meeting and have questions, you can contact Mrs.

McCabe, McCabeE@pearlriver.org or Mrs. Cervantes-Libassi, cervantes-libassin@pearlriver.org. Read more here: <http://www.erinslaw.org/for-parents/>.

- **PLEASE CONTINUE TO FILL OUT THE DAILY COVID SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE DAILY BEFORE 8 AM ON DAYS WHEN YOUR CHILD WILL BE ATTENDING IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION.**

III. President's Report – Alice Tom

- We are also in need of volunteers to continue the **Outdoor Classroom Project Committee**. Parents, caregivers, alumni and community members are ALL welcomed.
- **Fourth Grade Lawn Signs:** Link to order is open on Cheddar Up until May 21st. Signage available first week of June.
- A **Norwex "Spring Cleaning x Earth Day" fundraiser** earned \$364.
- **Spring Plant Sale:** Deadline has been extended to May 15th.
- **Amazon Smile:** Please remember to shop Amazon Smile and support the FA PTA whenever you shop on Amazon. A portion will be donated to the PTA.
- **Box Tops:** Please remember to sync your ShopRite PricePlus card to register Franklin Avenue and earn Box Tops points for the school.
- **Moms Night Out:** Held at the Rockland GAA on May 13th in support of the Outdoor Classroom Project.
- **Krispy Kreme Fundraiser for Father's Day:** More details to come.
- **End-of-year Scholastic Book Fair:** Coming in June. More details to come.

Important Dates:

Date	Subject
Tuesday, May 18	School Budget Vote 7 AM to 9 PM
Thursday, May 20	Field Day for K-2
Friday, May 21	Field Day for 3-4
Friday, May 28	Last Day to Order 4 th Grade Promotion Lawn Signs
Friday, May 28	School Closed
Monday, May 31	School Closed (Memorial Day)
Tuesday, June 1	Return to School
Monday, June 7	Last PTA Meeting at 7 PM
Tuesday, June 8	4 th Grade Science Exam
Monday, June 14	Virtual Assembly with Jared Campbell
Thursday, June 17	4 th Grade Promotion

Meeting Adjourned - 8:10 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rose Croke, Co-Recording Secretary

The **next virtual PTA Meeting** is scheduled for **Monday, June 7, 2021 at 7 PM.**