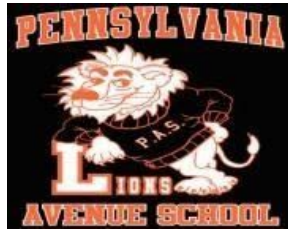


Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021



- ❖ **Date:** October 21, 2020
- ❖ **Meeting Called to Order by:** Joy Barrett, Recording Secretary, at 6:33 pm
- ❖ **Executive Members in Attendance:** Susan Palmeri, Michelle Pires, Gerard Palmeri, JoyAnne Barrett, Mrs. Clyne, Mr. Leusen, Principal.

- ❖ **Approval of Minutes from Prior Meeting:**
 - 1st Motion to Approve: Yes
 - 2nd Motion to Approve: Yes

- ❖ **Treasurer's Statements:** Gerry Palmeri, Treasurer
 - -PTO balance: \$16,877.24
 - -PTO Goals: \$16,442.98
 - - 52 Families as Members with 72 Members Total.
 - Last year we had 72 Families with 94 Members.
 - Please join

- ❖ **Reading of Communications:** JoyAnne Barrett, Recording Secretary
 - Nothing at this time.
 - Links for memberships and current events

- ❖ **New Dates to Remember:**
 - Oct 20-Nov 2 - Book Fair online only min \$25 free shipping.
 - Kidstuff Extended until 10/23 (Purchase available online entire year at: www.SupportOurGroups.com/GN/268842)
 - Oct 26-Nov 9 - Spirit Wear vendor sale online only (<https://www.schoolteamstores.com/penn-ave.htm>)
 - Nov 16- Dec 4 - Penguin Online Gift Shop (<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/homepage.do?method=h>

Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021

❖ **New Dates to Remember (cont.):**

- Nov 16- Dec 4 - Penguin Online Gift Shop
(<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/homepage.do?method=homepage&url=pennsylvaniaavenueschool271>) Free shipping \$25 and under. Before xmas.
- Ciro's Pizza & Restaurant Night's every Monday in November & December
10% of food order will come to Penn Ave PTO

❖ **PTO Meeting dates -**

- Dec 9

❖ **Comments from the President:**

- Welcome . Thank you to all that have filled out our PTO membership and sent in their membership dues. For those that have not done so yet and are interested please visit our PTO website or the schools website and follow the PTO links.
- I'd like to introduce the Executive Board Members:
- Sue - I'm Sue Palmeri and I'm your PTO President. (I also fill many other chairs as needed.)
- Sue - Michelle Pires. She is your Vice President (As well as Co-Historian.)
- Joy - I'm Joy Barrett and I'm your Recording Secretary (As well as Social Media Chair & Spirit Wear Chair.)
- Gerry - I'm Gerry Palmeri and I'm your Treasurer (As well as Technology Chair, Trunk or Treat Chair & Back to School Supply Kit Chair.)
- Back to Sue -
- Sue- I'd like to encourage everyone to use the PTO Website as well as the School Website. Please also consider following the PTO Facebook page, Instagram and Twitter accounts to stay up to date.
- (Cast Screen to Zoom meeting [if possible] of Membership Single Card listing PTO accounts listed here:

PTO Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/PennAve27PTO>

PTO Website: <https://pennave27pto.wixsite.com/pennave27pto>

As Well as School Website: <https://www.woodbridge.k12.nj.us/o/pennave27>

Online Zoom PTO meetings seem to work better and I am grateful for everyone showing up to these meetings and thank you all for your attendance.

Thank you!

Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021

❖ **Reminder From Recording Secretary Joy Barrett to The Chairs & Floor -**

- When it's your turn to speak please limit your notices, questions and concerns to 1-2 minutes. If need be, you can always directly email the Executive PTO Board or Principal Leusen with a concern & to speak further. We would like to try to keep these Zoom meetings as short as possible and this will help ensure this.

❖ **Chairpersons Reports/updates :** **(LIMIT TO UNDER 2 (TWO) MINUTES.)**

- Spirit Wear - On hand in town spirit wear is available to purchase and view on our PTO Website. The Spirit Wear Chair will deliver in town with what is available in stock, it is mostly size youth smalls and some adult larges. Our Online vendor sale with free shipping is happening October 26th -November 9th. Orders will come in with about a two week turnaround time for delivery.
- Box Tops - is currently running it's Fall Collection to be dropped off in school when able or scanned and available online to submit.
- Clothes By Pound- It was a huge success. We nearly filled their truck!
- Book Fair is currently happening October 20-Nov 2. (Vanessa Branco)
- Penguin Online Holiday Shoppe is scheduled for Nov 16- Dec 4
-

❖ **Principal's Comments:** **Mr. Thomas Leusen, Principal**

- *Virtual is quadrupling the number we have in attendance and moving forward something we should consider incorporating into our in person PTO meetings. Clothes by the pound was the most clothes I've seen in my 4 years here. Well done.*
- *Halloween- Trunk or Treat would have been planning by now but unfortunately we'll have to cancel that due to Covid. Our teachers will have virtual party instead. Teachers and kids can dress up and have activities for virtual halloween party on thursday or friday on October 29/30.*
- *Picture Day first 2nd week of December. A day B day take on respective days. Fully virtual will be by appointment. There will not be class pictures but Life Touch will try to piece together children in classes.*
-

❖ **Principal's Comments:** **Mr. Thomas Leusen, Principal (CONT.)**

- *Discussing hybrid last time unfortunately only made 1 week. Not allowed many details: timely fashion no margin of error not decision I take alone.*

Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021

Consulting with Wesentein with liaison with The Board of Health and Dr. Zega. After seeing a bunch of issues in our school as well as other districts it will lead to a shut down. If it's one case it can shut down a class when it's multiple it turns into shutting down the entire school. Unfortunately it was a matter of when not if. It is a matter of how we respond, correctly in the safety of our students and staff members.

- 1. There weren't too many phone calls directed to the school and a few emails. Was it my child's classroom. In the next letter I'll include in my email if you receive a 2nd email it involves your child's classroom.
- Zega is strick with a specific dialog that is to be sent out.
- I will also try to send out a text message to check emails since not everyone has checked emails.
- Before this all happened we had ONE week. I think I'll stick to video messages. But we had the kids back and we had smiling eyes and the kids enjoyed it and I received a lot of positive feedback and I feel incredibly proud and I hope we can get over this hurdle though it's completely out of my control. Though that one week the teachers looked incredibly exhausted and the teachers did a great job they did it well. Though you know the first time you do something its never perfect, there are hurdles. There'll be abrupt closings and everyone has to be prepared and have preparation and a back up ready. And the teachers are hauling back and forth and rising to the need. We'll adapt and adjust and the mantra is we'll do the best we can.
- Virtual halloween thurs & friday. Nothing in person. In person is for learning.
- Be as prepared as possible and do the best we can.

Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021

❖ **Concerns from other Committee Chairs & Floor:** (If not urgent, please speak with the Executive Board separately.) (IF SPEAKING LIMIT TO UNDER 2 (TWO) MINUTES.)

- Mrs. Szawan - Wanted to thank you.
- (Recording Secretary's Computer Crashed temporarily)
- Mrs. Leeman - what's your stance on giving goody bags for party?
- L- No goody bags in to be sent to school. Sorry.
- Mrs. Arredondo- Sue, holiday shoppe, will it be shipped to school or home?
- Sue - Home
- Leusen - Mrs. Barrett when Spirit wear comes in we can set up table for pick up.
- Mrs. Vazquez- Can we limit the amount of emails for the same info?
- Leusen- I have no idea
- Vazquez - We also got PTO as well as school so it was too much.
- Leusen- Unfortunately this is how it's going to be for a while and especially if you have multiple students signed up with the school with multiple alerts signed up for them. I get it.
- Mrs. Leeman- What the story with Grade parents
- Sue - Grade parents have been decided. Mr Leusen, can we go through google classroom to contact parents?
- L- call me
- Sue- mrs k has those emails
- Mrs. Sutton- I have those too if needed.
- Leusen- I'm confident the teacher can handle for halloween and going forward we'll discuss.
- Leusen- the kids are fantastic! Not one issue coming to school with social distancing and want to thank the parents for that. Spread the word to virtual cause it's hard to be positive but remember to think of the good and they have been so good. So thank you.
- Mrs. Arendando- I hear that kids have been getting temperatures taken in school?
- Leusen- Attestation forms need to be filled out in the morning before school every day but we have to follow up and have to check with each kid and then we've added an extra level of safety. Two fold extra level of safety for staff . other schools are doing it as well.
- Mrs. Arrendondo- can it be done in entry to school, before they enter?
-

Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021

- ❖ **Concerns from other Committee Chairs & Floor:** (If not urgent, please speak with the Executive Board separately.) (IF SPEAKING LIMIT TO UNDER 2 (TWO) MINUTES.)
 - Leusen- that is a possibility going forward but getting thermometers going forwards may be needed going forward from PTO?
 - Mrs. Vazquez- can an email go out because a lot of parents- I know - weren't happy that temps are being taken. Also can bilingual email be sent.
 - Leusen- every parent was called and every parent was given a tutorial and was given a call. As well as most of my emails do in fact come with a translation. The last email there was a time conflict so no translation was available but all others had one.

- ❖ **New Business/Old Business:** (LIMIT TO UNDER 2 (TWO) MINUTES.)
 - N/A

- ❖ **Adjourn Meeting/Final Presidential Remark:**
 - Our PTO Zoom meetings have been open to the public/entire school thus far however going forward they will be open to paying PTO Members only going forward.
 - Reminder from the President to fill out PTO membership forms and thank you all for coming to this Zoom PTO meeting.
 - I think we got a lot accomplished and Joy I think will call the meeting?
- ❖ **Time Called:** 7:20PM by Joy Barrett, Recording Secretary