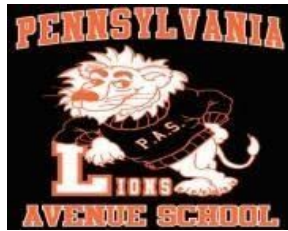


## ***Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021***



- ❖ **Date:** February 17, 2021
- ❖ **Meeting Called to Order by:** Joy Barrett, Recording Secretary, at 6:32pm
- ❖ **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.
  - I still need to add in the totals from the recent fundraisers to this balance.

## ***Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021***

### ❖ **Reading of Communications:** JoyAnne Barrett, Recording Secretary

- Nothing at this time.
- Links for memberships and current events will be listed below

### ❖ **New Dates to Remember:**

- Next PS 27 PTO meeting will be April 21 , 2021.
- Mondays in February and March reserved for PS 27 PTO *Restaurant Nights* at Ciro's
- Thursdays in March reserved for 5th Grade *Restaurant Nights*:
  - Red Robin March 4th, 5-8pm (take out preferred)
  - Smashburger March 11
  - Applebee's March 18
  - Moe's Southwest Grill March 25
- Poppin Popcorn 5th grade Fundraiser going on now until March 8
- 5th grade selling boosters for their yearbook now (deadline April 9th)
- Tentative Penn Ave PS 27 Family 50/50 (live draw on March 30th)
- March 15-19 Penn Ave PS 27 Picture Days
- Krispy Kreme Donut 5th grade fundraiser March 29th -April 12
- PS 27 Zoom Paint Night TBD
- Tuesday, April 13th PS 27 Clothes by the Pound Collection Door 5
- April 12- April 16th 2021 PS 27 Spirit Wear vendor sale online only  
(<https://www.schoolteamstores.com/penn-ave.htm>)

### ❖ **PTO Meeting dates -**

- Wednesday, April 21, 2021

## ***Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021***

### **❖ Comments from the President:**

- We have a few fundraisers in place. Some are for PS 27 and others are for 5th grade yearbook and graduation. Please see your emails and social media from Penn Ave PTO. You can also view our website.
- We are looking to host a 50/50 in March for Penn Ave School Families. A Facebook live drawing to be done at the school on March 30th. So look out for an email and posts in the next coming weeks.

### **❖ Recording Secretary Joy Barrett to The Chairs & Floor:**

- Reminder: To all chairs, please send flyers, letters and public related posts to our Vice President, Michelle Pires at pennave27vp@outlook.com and she will review it prior to final approval by Mr. Leusen
- Reminder: 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 to ensure this.
-

## ***Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021***

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

- Spiritwear : Spiritwear was a small success for the fall with \$80.50 brought in for online sales (Joy)
- Restaurant Nights: Mondays are reserved for Ciro's for February and March. Thursdays are now reserved for 5th Grade Restaurant Nights at various places (dates/places listed above in New Dates to Remember.)(Michelle/Joy)
- Hospitality: we will be using last year's 80's night local restaurant gift certificates to provide a few lunches for the teachers when they return in March. (\$25 Beanitos, 2 pizzas at pizza time, \$30 D'Italia, 2 pizzas and \$20 for Ciro's)
- 5th grade coordinator: (Spoken by Michelle Pires, Connie was unable to attend.) Booster Flyer, Poppin Popcorn fundraiser & Krispy Kreme fundraiser are scheduled. Restaurant nights at Red Robin, Moe's, Applebee's and Smashburger 5th Grade Fundraisers are scheduled. Next meeting for 5th grade parents is tentative for Weds, Feb 24th at 6:30pm. Chili's is donating a \$50 check to the 5th grade. (Connie)
- 

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

- PTO Fairy to show teachers and staff we appreciate them. When teachers are back in the building... A few times a month ppl will coordinate and donate breakfast edibles or drinks (box of Joe, dozen donuts, muffins) for teachers and staff at ps 27. (Johanna/Joy discuss)
- Spring painting zoom for PS 27 students. Mrs. Klein and PTO or can go through Dibble and Dabble.(Sue/Joy discuss)

## ***Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021***

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

- Winter needs to go. LoL. One more thing to persevere through but thank you all for your dedication. We truly appreciate everything the pto does for us. It is all about teamwork here at penn ave and will always be our mission.
- The Have A Heart Food Drive was a great success and thank you. We had about 6 or 7 boxes picked up. Families relying on food banks. Peter Barcelona was appreciative and thanked us and it was tough this year but we still had a lot of contributions.
- We are celebrating black history month and diversity via post and social media.
- March 1st is hybrid restarting. Sending out reminders/ emails. Number 1 thing, fill out an attestation form for those attending daily instruction.
- This is a reset every time but we are doing it right every time. We are at 61% of our students in person. Our max capacity is 10 or 11 kids per class. Other schools are at 20%. We are much larger. Our safety is the number 1 thing we do. School 27 is ready this entire year. Just to be clear. We have always been ready but we are only one of 25 schools. But that is a credit to my staff who is willing to do whatever they can.
- Picture Day March 15 cohort A in person
- Picture Day March 19 cohort B in person
- Picture Day Fully remote make appt after 130 pm.
- Notices will be given out in case anything changes.
- A few kids will go down and take pictures at a time. Every comfort level taken into consideration.
- March 2 (and week of) Dr. Seuss Birthday will have something planned. In person and online.
- Spring- I promise as many in person things as possible 5th grade as well as full school, safely. But it will look a lot differently.

## **Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021**

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

- 5th grade graduation may look differently like two ceremonies.
- Elementary national honor society coming up honoring last year as well as incoming 4th graders. Be on the lookout for email.
- That's all I have right now

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

- Jackie- picture day group c - if we don't feel comfortable sending our child in can we ask lifetouch if we can send a picture in instead?
- L- send me an e-mail and I will ask lifetouch if that is something we can coordinate.
- Chantle- is there any specific call out policy for virtual? Internet issue, dr appt? Kid being brat and not going on is there a policy for attendance?
- Is there a daily grade why isn't there a participation grade? Because the average is down...
- Upper grades are not recognizing students of the marking period?
- L-yes attendance will count but communicate with the teacher for better understanding. It will count but it will not be as rigid but there still is an attendance policy. You can email me.
- There still is a minimum grade unlike older grades like middle/hs for elementary...
- Zoom cutoff in the middle of answers. (Mr. Leusen will privately email Mrs. Leemann.)
-

## ***Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021***

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

- Zoom booted us off for limited time/ppl. Our meeting was cut short. In prior times we've either had less ppl so no time constraint or used
- the school's zoom account. We apologize for ending abruptly and will attempt to get any questions unanswered via email from Mr. Leusen or Mrs. Ilaria.
- I (Joy) was texted questions to **email**. They will be listed below with answers.:
- Questions Regarding National Honor Society;
- 1. Confirming that it's for 4th and 5th graders? -4th grade is when they are inducted, correct?
- 2. Who do they get selected by? Teacher's nominations or by their grades alone?
- 3. When would this be? Date for induction?
- 4. Will children & parents be notified prior to induction?
- 5. What are the qualities and qualifications to be inducted into the NHS (grades, community services, sports)?
- 6. If it's based on community services, how is the committee/teachers being made aware of children's community services during virtual covid times? (Examples: for my child, she has been writing letters to seniors citizens at nursing homes to keep them "company" during this time, wishing them well, happy Valentine's day, etc. Regularly bakes cookies for all 7 neighbor houses all on her own and brings them plates and helps bake muffin every few weeks to drop off at the school for the teachers that are in the building. She's on the waitlist to volunteer at Woodbridge Animal Shelter for when they allow her to go there. Paints kindness rocks for community and school and places around town & helps build at school, etc. She brings food to the police dept - My point is, these community acts are basically unknown of her by most at the school, up until me stating it now.) How do children and parents make them known? Is there an application process since virtual makes it harder?
- Mrs. Ilaria: I will gladly help answer some questions.
- 4th graders will be notified in March if they were selected for Honor Society. Typically we look at grades as well as community service/sports/other activities but due to the past year's circumstances, this is something Mr. Leusen and I are going to reconsider when we return to school next week.

## ***Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021***

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

- A date for induction has not yet been chosen but will most likely be in June.
- I plan to hold two inductions, one for last year's inductees since they didn't get an opportunity to have one and then a second for the new inductees.
- Parents of both groups will receive letters in the mail that will ask for an RSVP by email to me. Most likely we will have to limit the amount of guests each child can bring due to social distancing guidelines.
- We briefly discussed possibly holding the ceremonies outdoors. I think I've hit all your questions. I hope that this helps.
- 
- 
- For Dr. Seuss Read Across America Week:
- 1. Will there be specific days that the kids dress up that parents will know in advance and are posted on social media?
- 2. Speaking of social media if there are activities-Can I (for social media) get a list in advance so I can make posts/ flyers ahead of time since that takes a bit of work, please?
- Mr. Leusen: I will let you know of any activities that you can promote via social media for Read Across America. One that I am planning is a Zoom where I read a Dr Seuss book to students. This would be at night and I will send the invite to all parents.
- 

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

- N/A

## ***Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021***

### ***❖ Final Comments from the Presidents:***

- No final comment. Zoom booted us as we ran out of minutes for our meeting. We apologize and will try to use the school account for the next meeting.

**Adjourn Meeting:** Time Called: **712: PM** by Joy Barrett Recording Secretary  
(Zoom meeting cut off.)

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## ***Pennsylvania Avenue School 27 PTO Meetings 2020-2021***

Penn Ave Facebook Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/PennAve27PTO>

Penn Ave PTO Website Link:

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

Link for Membership:

<https://pennave27pto.wixsite.com/pennave27pto/pto-membership>

Link for Meeting Minutes:

<https://pennave27pto.wixsite.com/pennave27pto/pto-meeting-minutes>

Link for Flyers:

<https://pennave27pto.wixsite.com/pennave27pto/flyers>

Link for 5th Grade Booster:

<https://pennave27pto.wixsite.com/pennave27pto/basic-11>