

**Welcome/Announcements:**

Thank you everyone for attending our second Jeffrey Ratner Robert Seaman Elementary School PTA meeting today.

Welcome Mr. Grishman, Denise Nash, Victor Manuel and Jill Citron.

Today we welcome Doreen Dunne, Council Director for Girls on the Run of Long Island. Girls on the Run is dedicated to creating a world where every girl is empowered. Doreen will be speaking about the program today.

**Thank Yous (Melissa Mancuso):**

A huge thank you to Mrs. Kletter, Guna, Angela, Maria and especially our custodial staff for a successful Welcome Back Picnic. You all did a wonderful job making our first in-person school event memorable. I would also like to thank Sabha and her family for generously donating the food from Persian Grill and Maryam for donating the pizza.

September 22nd was photo day and although it was overcast, the children were able to take their photos outside and take a class group picture. The 5th grade took their playground picture that day as well. Thank you to Mrs. Kletter for making photo day successful. The make-up/retake date will be November 3rd. Email your child's teachers if you wish to retake photos. Parents will be able to pay and select packages online. Instructions were sent out with an online code for ordering.

Thank you to Anna and Christine for organizing Hats for Heroes. They were delivered to the Ronald McDonald House with much appreciation.

I would also like to say a big thank you to Melanie and Orit for chairing our Harvest Sale last Thursday. The weather was beautiful for the event and it was nice to see the children shop with their parents.

Our annual pumpkin patch for the kids is taking place October 29th before the spooktacular parade. The children will have an opportunity to pick their pumpkins and decorate them back in their classrooms. The HRRs in each class picked a decorating kit for the children to use to decorate their pumpkins.

**Fall Festival** is October 22 and will take place outdoors. Please note that time of the event has changed to 4-6 pm and the rain date will now be 10/23 3-5 pm. The executive officers have been working tirelessly on this event to make it the best Ratner-Seaman carnival. We are excited about this year's festivities which includes DJ, food trucks, real carnival games,

amazing big prizes and much more! It will be a memorable event for the whole family! Game tickets are available to purchase on Memberhub or can be purchased in person at the ticket table that day. We need your help! Consider being a parent volunteer and sign up to work a shift. Parent volunteers will receive 5 game tickets to use at the carnival. Please see or email Maria and/or Stephanie if you are interested. Please remember that head room reps and room reps are required to work one shift during the Fall Festival.

### **Secretary's Report (Stephanie Richman)**

I will take attendance of everyone at this meeting. The next Board of Education meeting is October 21, 2021 at 7:30 pm. Our next PTA meeting will take place on November 17, 2021 at 9:30 am. Weather permitting we will be outdoors. If not, we will coordinate a zoom. Please be sure to check our PTA web site, Facebook and Instagram pages to stay informed on PTA events, fundraisers, etc. Minutes from the PTA meeting will be posted on the PTA web site. We received a thank you note from Mrs. Marquino after we sent flowers when there was a death in her family.

### **Treasurer's Report (Emily Wachtel)**

The sale of the pop-it pencil cases and water bottles did well and the Fall Harvest Sale was super successful. All of our accounts are in good standing.

## **Committee Reports**

**Holiday Boutique:** Please save the date for our upcoming Holiday Boutique which will be on 11/30 from 5-7:30 pm and 12/1 during school hours. Evening hours are for parent and child shopping (sale period will be broken into slots by alphabetical order). This year we will be holding the boutique in the gym.

**Bulletin Board:** If you visit the school, please check out the front bulletin board for upcoming events.

**Seaman Connect:** Christine and Angela have done a wonderful job keeping our new families informed and welcoming them into our Ratner-Seaman community. On 9/25 our new families met up at Homecoming for fun, food and to walk around. Their next event will take place on 10/31 (time TBD) in front of Ratner-Seaman. They will be going trick or treating.

**Shop Rite, Amazon Smile, Box Tops:** Flyer was emailed from the school and the Box Top collection will be digital once again.

**Community Service:** Coat drive will be October 18-22. Please donate a new or gently used coat to the bin in the front lobby of the school. The coats will be dry cleaned and donated to The Mosaic Church to be given out to the homeless.

**Family Photo:** Date is November 6, 2021 and will be held at Maryam Tehrani's house again. Thank you to Maryam for letting us use her home. Please sign-up on MemberHub by 10/29.

**Sunshine:** Please support our superhero teachers by donating on MemberHub. With your donations, we are able to show the JRRS staff how much they are truly appreciated. No amount is too small.

### **Fifth Grade Committee::**

- **Fifth Grade Fundraising:** Thank you to 5th grade fundraising for our sneaker collection. Please look out for our October fundraiser. The Device Case fundraiser is going on now, visit MemberHub to place an order. We have sample cases for you to see today. Our cookie dough fundraiser will begin November 1<sup>st</sup> and run through November 19<sup>th</sup>. Packets will be going home on 10/29. Please note that other items are available to order on the Miss Chocolate website. Please support our 5th graders.
- **Fifth Grade Yearbook:** Thank you to the yearbook team for beginning to collect pictures for the yearbook. Thank you to Katelyn and Vittoria for setting up the google folders to upload pictures. An e-mail went out to the fifth grade parents to submit baby pictures and old photos taken in their children's classrooms and at school events since kindergarten. Baby photos are due by 11/12.
- **Fifth Grade Merchandise:** We sold 5th grade merchandise at the picnic and plant sale. Fifth grade merchandise is off to a good start. Please visit the table after the meeting to check out new merchandise. All items are also being sold on MemberHub.
- **Fifth Grade Ice Sales:** Our first ice sale took place on 10/1. Our next ice sale is 10/29. If you haven't already done so please buy ices on MemberHub.
- **Fifth Grade Events:** On 10/1 the 5th graders had their Spirit and Sports Day. The children got their 5th grade t-shirts and wristbands to mark the event. PTA also provided dip n dots as a special dessert for the kids. Thank you to Mrs. Kletter and the gym teachers for making the day special for our 5th graders.

**Health and Safety:** Start with Hello was successful. The students dressed in their Jericho spirit wear and took photos with our step and repeat. This year's Red Ribbon Week is themed "Bully free, looks like me!" coming up on October 25-29th. The flyer has gone out explaining the week-long events planned.

**Fundraising:** We will be selling our first ever Ratner-Seaman discount card! Now on sale on MemberHub and here today for \$20. We are very excited about this card as it has many of the eateries and shops frequented by most of us. Get ready for our annual Cider Mill fundraiser in November. Details to follow.

**Reflections:** The theme of this year's contest is "I Can Change the World." The participants from our school will receive a special pizza lunch in school and a certificate of participation. There will be two winners chosen from each category for each division, who will then move on to the regional stage, and if selected there, they will move on to national. The winners at our school level will also receive a gift certificate.

**Membership:** Our PTA membership for families and staff is open on MemberHub. It's \$10.00 to join the PTA per family. Membership is due by 10/29. This membership helps purchase educational programs and assemblies for our students. It also helps the PTA address health and safety issues in our school.

**SEPTA:** If you haven't done so already please consider joining SEPTA. The SEPTA Cookies and Canvas fundraiser is scheduled for 10/27 at 6pm on Zoom. On 11/16 at 7pm SEPTA and Jericho High School will be hosting their next meeting entitled "Life After Jericho". Please join us.

**Sweatshirt:** Samples for sizing purposes are here today. Please order the Fall Jericho spirit wear on MemberHub today. Sale closes on 10/29 and we will deliver right to your child's classroom around Thanksgiving.

### **President's Closing:**

Finally please note to be mindful of the new communication method here at Ratner-Seaman. Flyers for all PTA events are e-mailed to parents every Tuesday and Friday. Please check out social media for all event flyers as well. We will no longer be using the Remind app.

### **Mrs. Kletter's Report:**

Thank you to the PTA for the Fall Harvest Sale. I encourage everyone to get involved with SEPTA. It's a great way to learn from educators in the district. Ratner-Seaman will be hosting the March meeting and we will have surprise guests. I am wearing pink today to support the staff's efforts to promote Breast Cancer Awareness. Please encourage your children to read at least 20 minutes every day as it helps them build their vocabulary and sharpen their mind.

**Girls on the Run (GOTR) Presentation by Doreen Dunne, Council Director for Girls on the Run of Long Island:**

GOTR is a national non-profit which offers after school programs with a curriculum focused on helping girls in grades 3-8 be joyful, healthful and confident.

There is currently an after-school program at Jackson. There are 28 teams on Long Island serving about 350 girls.

Each lesson has a theme and running is woven into each lesson. At the end of the season, girls run a 5K. This year's run is taking place December 4<sup>th</sup> at Eisenhower Park.

Each season is 16 lessons and all take place outdoors. Programs are split into grades 3-5 and grades 6-8.

To start an afterschool program, we would need 2 volunteers per team of 6-15 girls. Coaches do not need to be runners, but they must be willing to volunteer 2x per week for 75 minutes each time. Volunteers would be trained by GOTR.

The spring season will start around March 20 and end at the beginning of June.