

PTA Meeting Minutes - October 14, 2020

Welcome by PTA President Rohini Singh

Remarks by Superintendent Hank Grishman

- Everyone is thrilled by the just released Niche rankings of schools.
- Jericho High School was one of the top 10 high schools nationwide.
- Jericho School District was named the best school district in the state of New York and the 2nd best school district in the United States.
- Rankings are based not just on student achievement, but also on staff job satisfaction and parent perception.

Announcements

Seaman held its Class Photo Day on September 23rd and September 24th for our virtual learners. Even with the day running differently than usual, everything went smoothly and it was successful. Order forms will be emailed to everyone in the next few days.

We are thrilled to have Brandon Cohen, Jericho high school author and former Seaman student, here tonight to talk about his latest book, The Dream Teams. All sales of Brandon's book will go to Pet Peeves, a Long Island non-profit that supports shelters and rescue groups.

Thank you to our community service committee for running a very successful drive for various household items, clothes, and school supplies for residents of Momma's House in Jericho. Your work is very much appreciated.

Our fundraising committee led a very successful fundraiser in conjunction with Funky Monkey Toy Store in Roslyn for COVID necessary items such as masks, mask pouches, and hand sanitizer containers.

We have a new Seaman School Instagram page! Please follow us @seamanschoolpta

There is no PR committee this year so please email/text photos from out-of-school events to Rohini and Sheree to post on our Instagram and Facebook accounts.

Welcome to Lillia Zeng, president of the Chinese Association of Jericho (CAJ). Lillia has a daughter at Jackson. The CAJ was established to encourage parents to get more involved with the school and to help with any language barriers that prevent them from doing so.

The deadline for the Reflections National Art Contest is November 2 and the theme is "I matter Because..." The winners will receive a gift card and have the opportunity to compete in the Nassau County competition.

Secretary's Report (Stephanie Richman)

The next Board of Education Meeting is November 19, 2020 at 7:15 pm on Zoom.

Our next PTA meeting will take place on November 18, 2020 at 7:00pm on Zoom. There will be no PTA meeting in December. The date for the January 2021 meeting will be announced.

Treasurer's Report (Emily Wachtel)

Earlier today, the PTA Executive Board voted to accept this year's budget. It is more conservative due to COVID. All of our accounts are in good standing.

Committee Reports

Bulletin Board: Thank you for organizing the bulletin board with our art teacher, Mrs. Gilfedder. It looks so cute with the emoji wearing a mask!

Seaman Connect: New families are invited to go trick or treating in the Oakwood- Princeton Park area around the school on Halloween. New 5th grade families were informed about photo submissions for yearbook and encouraged to take and submit any group photos.

Box Tops: Flyer was updated for all digital fundraisers this year.

Community Service: Mommas House was a huge success. The next effort is the Coat Drive taking place October 19-23. Community Service will also be doing a canned food drive, something with Veterans, and an effort around Mother's Day.

Family Photo: Family photo day will take place on November 8. Pictures will once again be taken by Felicia. Details and venue to be announced. Flyer will be distributed soon.

Sunshine: The teachers were treated to an ice cream truck on October 9th during their lunch periods sponsored by the PTA.

Fifth Grade Committee:

- Plant Sale/ Halloween bags sale
- Mask and mask chain sale – mask chains are being made by a Jericho high school student.
- Booking the circus – contract has been negotiated with cancellation clauses
- Memberhub store front will be used for all PTA sales
- Saucer sale – trial flying saucer sale using individually-wrapped nut-free products from Carvel has been scheduled for November 13. Flyer will be doing out soon and all ice cream will be distributed to the classrooms by Dr. Sherman.

Fifth Grade Yearbook: User names and passwords for Pictavo will be sent out to 5th grade families so we can start uploading photos.

Health and Safety: This committee is working on healthy cooking videos and meal/snack suggestions to send out to parents.

Fundraising: Following the success of the Funky Monkey fundraiser, we are now doing a partnership with Square Art. There will also be the Thanksgiving pie sale and a shopping promotion with local stores in December.

Membership: PTA membership via Memberhub has been very successful. The committee is working on contacting those families who have not yet sent in dues with the goal of having 100% participation.

SEPTA: Both the first SEPTA meeting on COVID-related anxiety and stress, and the second meeting on time management/organization during COVID went well.

Book Fair: This year's Virtual book fair with Scholastic will take place online October 19th through November 1st. All books purchased will be mailed to the customer's home.

Programming: Programming ideas are currently in development.

Sweatshirt: Designs are in development.

Class Lists: Class lists will be sent out to parents once we get the last few consents.

Seaman T-Shirts: Seaman Strength T-shirts will be given out to all new students and Kindergarteners even though there are no trips currently planned. Shirts can be worn for school spirit days.

Nutrition Committee: This committee is working on suggestions for healthy food choices to send to food services.

Dr. Sherman's Report

Niche rankings named Seaman 3rd best elementary school in the state of New York, the 11th best elementary school in the country and the 1st best elementary school in Long Island.

Dr. Sherman still needs everyone to fill out their morning health checks each day. Teachers and staff are following the same COVID protocols as students.

Safety drills have been conducted (fire and lockdown). All drills will be announced prior to them taking place.

The staff really enjoyed the ice cream truck provided by the PTA.

Friday, October 30th will be a wellness day with fun Halloween activities. Kids can wear costumes all day and there will be no formal learning

Mr. Grishman added that Jericho Schools has been given 24/7 access to an adviser from the Nassau County Department of Health. Dr. Buckman is a physician and expert in communicable

diseases and has been a great resource for all COVID-related questions.