

George H. McVey PTA  
General Membership Meeting  
October 8, 2024, 10:00am

- I. Call to Order: 10:01am
- II. Pledge of Allegiance: 10:02am
- III. September 2024 Minutes: There were no corrections; minutes stand as approved.
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Siobhan Licastro
  - a. Balance as of September 2024: \$10,560.75; Current Balance: \$23,575.45
  - b. Received \$2,805 in Membership, \$2,735 from sock/shirt sales from Orientation.
  - c. Upcoming Fundraisers - Ms. Chocolate Catalog Sale, Chuck E. Cheese, Bake Sale
- V. Principal's Report – Ms. Dunne
  - a. Early October, looking forward to the book fair, photo day was a fun event. Digitech sale is still active online. New styles are well received, thank you to the PTA.
  - b. School security - 2nd lock down drill coming up. 4 total for the year. The students are prepared.
  - c. Unity Day celebration will be on October 16<sup>th</sup>, not during wellness week this year. 13 years ago, Unity Day started at McVey. The theme is "Be the 'I' in kind."
  - d. Wellness Walk - notification coming home today - walk during wellness week. Students will be enriched in healthy decisions.
  - e. May - Mental Health Month
  - f. Character Ed Committee met. How can we enhance the program. Connect the dots between elementary school and middle school. As social circles change, the program is prolific beyond these four walls.
  - g. Monthly Themes - first started in October - Wordle this month is 'teamwork' - find out by Friday - mystery #, using math.
  - h. Suggestion Box - Freedom Friday - on Friday the class that did the announcement for the week picked a patriotic song to be played after the announcements.
  - i. Spotlight on Education - next month - how the brain learns - connection to HW. How do we as team McVey set up our year. Think about setting goals with the staff. Working on spiraling, not just math, but science as well.
  - j. Specials - language is fostering true understanding of concepts. Science - eco system, forces, energy, engineering and design. How do all the parts of the library interact.
  - k. Goal for McVey - how we instruct math in ELA in a more prolific way. Connecting all the dots. Growth mindset for our children.
- VI. Assistant Principal's Report – Mr. Minerva
  - a. We are up and running - figured out procedures - lunch recess and dismissal. New students are still coming in. Busing parents, join talking points app. Buses are right where we need it to be, seemed to be caught up.
- VII. Teacher Liaison's Report – Ms. Jalfin
  - a. Thank you for the breakfast bar - the teachers really appreciated it.
  - b. Introduction to PTA and working closely with PTA - class parents list was created to make sure parents are aware of what's going on.

- c. Chocolate sale was organized, thank you Mr. Molina.
- VIII. Superintendent's Report – Mr. Rosner
- a. Introduction
- IX. President Reports – Allison Vardakis and Julie Leake
- a. Welcome back from a long week. Happy new year to those who celebrated Rosh Hashanah
  - b. National PTA grant - we applied. (Julie)
  - c. End of week - will get a survey, please fill out so we know what to do better here as a PTA in school of excellence survey (Julie)
  - d. Committee chairperson email (Alison) anyone who wants to be a committee chair let us know. There will be email correspondence to help each other - bounce ideas off each other
  - e. EMPTA council at 730pm 10/16 Todd Atkin at Salisbury center - all are welcome
- X. Vice President Reports – Karen Heckman & Michelle Robertson
- a. Nothing new to report
- XI. Secretary Reports – Taleen Krug & Amy Ramnarine
- a. Nothing new to report
- XII. Committee Reports –
- a. Membership: Karen Heckman – last meeting 458, as of today 516 members - please join the support has been great; surpassed our goal in just a month.
  - b. Access & Curriculum: Amy Ramnarine & Allison Vardakis – Amy - meeting was on 10/2 discussed the implementation for CKLA program from grades 1-5. In Kindergarten we used Foundations, and now moving to this approach, speech to print, verbalizing and visualizing. How K is incorporating the nursery rhymes and being creative. Allison - get a foundation and build as it goes - biggest take away is they have a background and build in all subjects. Next meeting is about science curriculum. Next meeting Nov 6th - grade 5-12. Mr. Rosner- language vocabulary and building background (CKLA) The more we build language, the better their comprehension will be. Ms. Dunne - CK McVey - gave us the ability to teach kids background knowledge - not necessarily required. By NYS but aligned in conjunction with science and language. Own approach. Making sure the program represents the standards to each grade level. Will continue to evolve.
  - c. Safety & Transportation: Jennifer Reinhardt – first meeting is tomorrow 10/8. Did walk through of building and everything is great.
  - d. 5th Grade Committee - Smencil sales were a success, magnet sale will be going home this year and there are more. Pretzel sale this Friday. Thanks for your support. (Jen)
  - e. Arts in Education - (Amy) Jared Campbell - June 18th - entire school - writes own music and positive message on anti-bullying and kindness. Mad Science 4<sup>th</sup> grade - Marvels of Motion through science experiments. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade - Mad Science - Fire & Ice, difference between hot & cold. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade - Dinosaurs Rocks, again like last year. Talked about fossils, kids loved it. BMX possibly for Red Ribbon Week. Lastly, PARP assembly, working on the theme.
  - f. World's Finest Chocolate - Friday last day to send in money - biggest fundraiser of the year; if you'd like more boxes, let them know. (David Molina)

- g. Fall Photos - went well. Retake day is 11/14 along with club photos and 5th grade photos. Want to take a Kindergarten picture so they can use it for the yearbook in 5th grade. Spring photos will be freestyle photos. (Julie & Amy)
- h. Apparel Sale - officially ended yesterday, but the website is still live so you can still order. Once all orders are in, they will be distributed to kids' class and sent home. (Karen)
- i. Fall Catalog - catalogs come home tomorrow - sale starts tomorrow through the 25th - lots of prizes, kids love it. (Michelle)
- j. Reflections - Liz and Renee (not present) Allison - can email or send physically. Due Oct 25<sup>th</sup>.

### XIII. Upcoming Events

- a. Unity Day 10/16
- b. Fall book fair - 16th, 17th 18th - if you'd like to volunteer
- c. Red ribbon week - (Julie) fire prevention day (mark in ladder 1) 10 firefighters coming.
- d. Wellness walk - October 23rd - healthy lifestyle
- e. Chuck E. Cheese - 10/18 4-9PM (Siohban)
- f. Spooky walk - part of howl - decorating Friday 25th starting at 2PM, Monday during the day too. Send your men....set up and break down
- g. Halloween howl - need a committee chair, meeting tomorrow, DJ booked- 10/28
- h. Kindergarten pumpkin patch - pre-K & K - 10/30 - pumpkins and balloons, weather permitting
- i. Election Day - bake sale 11/5 - school closed - best sellers are homemade goods.

### XIV. Motion to adjourn: 10:59am