

## REACH Parent Group MINUTES

8:30-10:00am, Friday FEB 14, 2020

Sandburg Maker Space

REACH Parent Group (formerly REACH PTA) is a parent group dedicated to supporting gifted and talented programs in District 205 and encouraging higher level educational opportunities for ALL District 205 students. Our area of focus includes:

- Providing parent and student resources for gifted and advanced learners
- Organizing advocacy at local and national levels
- Sponsoring and/or promoting academic-based extra-curricular activities that are accessible to all students
- Collaborating with REACH teachers to provide additional resources and student opportunities.

**TODAY'S AGENDA** (meeting 6 of 9); Attendees (19)

**D205 Guests:** Dave Beedy, D205 Director of STEM Education - *thank you!*

**Meeting topic(s):** ["Keeping Math Fun!](#) Math programs, links, games, for now and summer break."

1. What can we do at home to make math fun? Getting them engaged and changing their relationship with math is key. (REACH/STEM is also in charge of the engineering program at York.)

Parent mathematics - [//tinyurl.com/d205math](http://tinyurl.com/d205math) for parent link is usually included on the REACH Teacher's page and is found on the REACH Parent Group page, D205 resources.

Dragonbox Numbers - Ipad/Android = helps kids develop intuitive reasoning and conceptual understanding when solving problems. These games target young kids. but if you have a child struggling with standard algorithms they will help him/her understand it better. These dragon box games (elements) help lay the groundwork for our 8th graders when they start geometry. Helps them conceptualize the process as it is very different than anything they have ever done in math class. (Note, it doesn't say geometry anywhere but it is!)

Dragonbox Algebra: two versions: 5+ and 12+. These apps allow you to enter each child's name to keep their progress. There are no two player games. These apps cost about \$6 but there are no advertisements.

Polyup-Free- any web browsers - this one needs to be set up by a parent. Will give a QR code and students can scan with their chromebook and that will start the pathway. No ads ;) K-12

Dice games- your kitchen table. Muggins - you can buy but it's \$60 or DIY with paper - can google instructions. Yahtzee and Prime Climb. Farkle. all good games.

Card games - Set, Tiny Polka Dot, War

Other - Turing Tumble

Great site - [STEMDuPage.com](http://STEMDuPage.com) - huge resource for events (on our site, parent resources)

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2. Math Pathways - quick overview

Q&A-----

1. Summer bridge program? Yes, will use Khan Academy.
2. Bridge for 6th-7th graders? (Math 1-accelerated PreAlgebra)? May be a "boot camp"; tba.

### Officer and Chair/Team Reports (updates)

Treasurer - Carrie Kaufman

***No formal report. Awaiting to reimburse MS for IML, \$120 each (have received Bryan's but not Sandburg or Churchville); move forward with request for teacher donations \$100 for all schools (elementary and middle) - SEE LINKS BELOW***

Website Administrator - Craig Grossardt

**No formal report - thank you! All Parent Resources have been reviewed and are updated!**

Social/Social Media - Carrie Kaufmann

**None**

Mathletes - 3 of 8 elementary schools: Gwen Reedy (Edison), Gina Padgett (Jefferson), & Lynnea Brown (Field); ***Gina - report to PTA Council***

***Gina reported to council; no questions; small group as lots of conflicts that night***

**MS-HS Transition AKA "Freshman Readiness"** (Workshop/Presentation) Team - Patricia Glosner, Desen Lu, Kelly Byrne

***Awaiting location, date, time but delivery is expected this spring!***

Study Skills, Elem-MS Transition (possibly) Team - Gina Padgett, Andrea Gambil, Amy Kehoe

***Are continuing to gather input on how best to proceed; seems little interest/need in 5th-6th grade transition due to no homework policy; considering a possible fall implementation with focus on 8th-9th grade***

IAGC - attended, Vanessa Paoli

***Absent; will deliver at March meeting - thank you for attending!***

President - Patti Berner

- **REACH Teacher Donations - DUE PRIOR TO MARCH 13 MEETING!** (We will vote, pending D205 approval, on items at this time)
  - [2018-19 purchases here](#), for reference
  - [form to complete request](#) (with intro explanation and instructions)
- **Updates from past events** (see next page)
- **This link will take you to "all things REACH Parent Group"**

### ALL Reps

- Math kits - updates, needs
- Other topics?

### Questions and/or Request from School REACH Reps? Parents?

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\*\*\*\*\***PAST ITEMS - FEEDBACK please**\*\*\*\*\*

### January

- 1/23 Thur. 7:00 pm, Book Discussion at Elmhurst Public Library - **Middle School Matters:**
- 1/27 Mon. 6:30 pm, REACH Program, "**Structured Parent Feedback**", D205 offices

### February

- 2/4 Tue. 6-8 PM SROH, [Summer Recreation Open House](#), York
- 2/9 Sun, 12-5pm, "[Build Your Own Computer and take it home!](#)" Elmhurst location of [The Center for Gifted](#)
- 2/8 Sat. D205 Foundation Gala - [2020 Fundraising Gala: Within Reach](#).
- 2/8 Sat. 9-1pm, [IAGC Annual Convention, Parent Day](#), \$70, Naperville Marriott
- 2/11 Tue, 1:30 pm Superintendent's Coffee at Conrad Fischer.

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### UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS

- Winter/Spring 2020, District 205 PTA Council Scholarship Fund Events (see PTA emails)
- **New!** 2/17 Mon, President's Day - NO SCHOOL! Innovation-Creation Lab, PreK-6th gr. register [HERE](#), Elmhurst location, [Center for Gifted](#)
- 2/21 DUE DATE for [REACH Appeals Applications](#)
- 2/22, Sat, [Students Involved with Technology Conference](#), Bensenville, grades 3-12
- 2/25, Tue REACH Steering Committee Meeting
- 2/29 Sat, deadline for discounted summer registrations with [630 Code](#).
- 3/13 Fri, 8:30 am, REACH Parent Group monthly meeting, Guest Leslie Weber. Topic - Program Review update, Sandburg Maker Space
- **New!** 3/17 BOE Presentation, REACH Program Review
- **New!** 4/2 Thur, 7 pm, "New to REACH" Parent Information Presentation, delivered by Leslie Weber, Sandburg Library.

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### Helpful Links

#### **DISTRICT**

- [D205 REACH](#)
- [D205 Math Curriculum](#)
- [Elmhurst Music Boosters](#)
- [D205 BOE Calendar](#)
- [District 205 Foundation](#)
- [PTA Council updates](#)
- [Thrive205](#) – A School & Community Wellness Partnership

#### **REACH Parent Group**

- [REACH Parent Group](#)
- [List of School Representatives](#) aka "REACH Rep"
- [Patti Berner](#), Chair 2018-2020

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**Next REACH Parent Group Meeting – Friday, MARCH 13, 2020** (Sandburg’s Maker Space) at 8:30-10:00 am. **Meeting topic(s) under consideration:** REACH Program Review with update from Leslie Weber and/or Mariann Lemke, and other topics presented at February’s meeting.

**\*Will vote on donations to REACH teachers**

*Completed by Patti Berner (with substantial assistance by a guest attendee, thank you!)*