

REACH Parent Group MINUTES

11:30am-1:00pm, Friday **SEPTEMBER 11, 2020**

Virtual via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82607273787>

REACH Parent Group (a committee of the PTA Council) 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 1 of 9)

D205 Guests: Leslie Weber, Director of Curriculum & REACH Coordinator

Meeting topic(s): "New to REACH" Parent Informational Meeting, Appeals, Program Updates, New Rubric, Program Review/Implementation, REACH Teacher Classroom (virtual?) Donation Requests, and parent questions.

- Reach reps for each school are posted on the website.
- Budget – Includes donations to teacher classrooms, math kits for Math Nights, freshman readiness workshops, Mathletes' fees, IAGC convention. All money last year was donated to the COVID Community Relief Fund. Our funds do not come from memberships. They come from the district's PTAs. (\$2,000 is the amount currently reflected for the REACH PG in the PTA Council draft budget.)
- Leslie Weber – Guest Speaker
 - New Reach Parents' presentation will be available Monday, the 14th.
 - Program review was started last year. It will take a couple years to complete. Thus far, they have collected data on the current program with the help of a steering committee. They surveyed students, teachers, parents, etc. to see their thoughts on programs. They reached out to Northwestern for input on their program. Nothing this year will change.
 - Rubric – They will still do initial identification in grade 2. In 5th grade, they will retest for placement in middle school (redo CoGAT, math assessment and teacher recommendations). The timing for math assessment will change for current 2nd graders due to technology changes. It will be pushed back to later in the school year. They will be tested in the winter (likely January).
 - Moving CoGAT assessment to December for 2nd and 5th grades only. It is used for initial identification.

*Agenda, respectfully prepared by 2018-2020 REACH Parent Group Chairman, [Patti Berner](#).
Minutes compiled by Vanessa Krietsch, REACH Parent Group Secretary - thank you Vanessa!*

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- o The information will be released in Jan or Feb as far as who will be placed into the program and Appeal process starts in Spring.
- o Question and Answer:
 - All Elementary Reach Programs are currently remote. They do not want to mix different groups of kids together. All REACH kids will receive their services in their normal classrooms, remotely. This is the starting point for right now. They are going to see how it works and will make adjustments as required. They are hoping it will be successful.
 - For Math League information, reach out to your school's principal.
 - They are unsure if testing will take place remotely or on site at school this year.
 - If you do not qualify for REACH during the appeal process, you can appeal every year if you choose to do so.
 - Regardless of Hybrid or Remote, students will have the same REACH teacher.
 - ELA is only 30 minutes daily. It will not be extended. It is an enrichment, so it is only 30 minutes a day.
 - There is no limit on the number of students that are accepted into REACH.
 - The criteria to be accepted into the program is not changing right now. It may change as part of the program review.
 - IAR test is used for 5th graders assessment as well.
 - You can request test results. They will be sent in bulk later in the year, but can request earlier if want. Start with the school about how to get those results.

Officer and Chair/Team Reports (updates)

- Treasurer - Carrie Kaufman
 - We get money from umbrella PTA organization from Fair Share. That money is divided up into the different groups. We don't know what we will get this year as far as budget with having an online only drive for fair share.
- Website Administrator - Erik Krietsch
- Social/Social Media - Carrie Kaufmann
- Mathletes - (participating elementary schools): Gwen Reedy (Edison), Gina Padgett (Jefferson) & Lynnea Brown (Field)
 - Field put program on hold. Edison will have for 1, 3 and 5th, *though they are not sure if it will be remote. Jefferson is also exploring remote options.*
- President – Patti Berner
 - REACH Teacher Donations - Consolidated Requests {reps use}
 - This link_will take you to "all things REACH Parent Group" {for reps use}

Agenda, respectfully prepared by 2018-2020 REACH Parent Group Chairman, [Patti Berner](#). Minutes compiled by Vanessa Krietsch, REACH Parent Group Secretary - thank you Vanessa!

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- [Reminder](#) to share REACH Newsletter content with PTA's for News/Web updates

ALL Reps

- Math kits - all in-person events "on hold"; plans for virtual?
- Other topics?

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

Next REACH Parent Group Meeting – tentatively THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2020 (Virtual) at 1:30-3:00 PM. Meeting topic(s) under consideration: REACH Program Review with update from Leslie Weber (Lemke?) and other topics presented at September's meeting.

PAST ITEMS - FEEDBACK please

- none

UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS

September

- 9/ 8, BOE, 7:00 pm, virtual
- 9/9, BOE, 5:30 pm, Finance & Operations Committee, virtual
- **9/14, Mon. 7 pm, REACH Parent Informational Night, "New to REACH?", presented by Leslie Weber, Director of Curriculum and REACH Coordinator.**
- 9/22, BOE, 7:00 pm, virtual
- 9/30 [D205 Foundation, Holiday Tree Orders DUE!](#)

October

- **10/15 Thur 1:30 pm**, REACH Parent Group monthly meeting. Guest, Leslie Weber, Zoom.
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Helpful Links

DISTRICT

- [OpenD205](#)
- [Donate - D205 Foundation](#), Elmhurst Community Response Fund
- [D205 REACH](#)
- [D205 BOE Calendar](#)
- [District 205 Foundation](#)

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- [PTA Council](#) updates
- [Elmhurst Music Boosters](#)
- [Thrive205](#) – A School & Community Wellness Partnership

REACH Parent Group

- [REACH Parent Group](#)
- [2020-21 List of School Representatives](#)
- [Patti Berner](#), Chair 2018-2020.