

REACH Parent Group MEETING NOTES

11:30am- 12:30pm, Friday **JANUARY 8, 2021**

Virtual via on Zoom, (Meeting ID: 844 4089 5454, Passcode: 833161). [note new ID/PC EACH MTG!]

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 5 of 9)

Attendees: 21

D205 Guests: Jill McCall, Chairperson of the PTA Council's Elmhurst District 205 Summer Recreation Open House (SROH) will fill us in on summer options!

Jill McCall, has been involved with SROH for 5 years, as a Chair for 3 years. Bev Redmond (D205 Executive Director of Communications & PR) is a co-chair for SROH.

- All relevant information for 2021 SROH can be found [here](#).
- SROH - 100 summer programs providers. Participation is free for vendors and visitors.
- Virtual SROH will take place on Feb 2nd, 2021 6:00-8:00 PM - VIRTUAL tables.
- Videos from each camp are featured on the Facebook page.
- Looking for ideas to get more students and parents involved in the virtual setting, especially with testimonials.
- [Spreadsheet](#) available with all the vendors listed, by type of programs and other categories and contact information (including social media)
- Programs available for prek3 - high school seniors.
- Activities focussed on serving gifted students or special needs.
- Patti asked if the camps will be virtual or in-person (zoom fatigue). Information specific to each camp is shared in the spreadsheet.
- Participants in 2020 vs 2021 - a lot of vendors are hesitant to commit at this point. 46 participants to date.
- The directory of participants is only available on Facebook for now. Michelle Huber, President of PTA Council is working on creating a microsite for the event.
- Jill McCall can be contacted via the Facebook page.

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Leslie Weber, Director of Curriculum & REACH Coordinator, is unable to attend. Please ask questions of the group and/or email Leslie directly. Expect our usual parent Q&A.

- REACH program review to be shared with D205 Board of Education on Feb 9, 2021.
- Updated identification rubrics to be updated by the end of next week
- Becca - info on the appeal process for next year? Patti - appeals open April 5th; will follow up with Mrs. Weber
- MAP testing - no updates yet
- Updates to be found on the district [website](#)

Meeting topic(s)

- Kids adapting to hybrid/remote
- Q&A with REACH parents
- Additional Topics

Officer and Chair/Team Reports (updates)

Treasurer - Carrie Kaufman - Budget Update (approx \$385 avail.). Reps, remind teachers-submit [reimbursement form!](#)

Website Administrator - Anna Wick

- Access the REACH Website [here](#).
- Any updates/changes needed reach out to Anna at anna_c_wick@yahoo.com

Social/Social Media - Ioana Fernandez, [Social Media Strategy](#)

- Facebook Page - 40 likes, 48 followers
- Elementary Group - 30 members
- Middle Group - 31 members
- Instagram - 10 followers
- Please fill in survey if you would like to make the REACH Facebook Groups Private.

Mathletes - (participating elementary schools): **Gwen Reedy (Edison)**, Gina Padgett (Jefferson) & Sarah Jensen (Field)

- Pragna Dave (Edison) update: 5 students competed in the fall competition 2020 - one student made the national honor roll (10%). Students practiced on their own and competed online.
- Thank you Gina P for introducing us to Mathletes
- Nadine: how to get mathletes going? Gina is the right person to reach out to. napolinu2@gmail.com

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Freshman Readiness Workshop - Amy Kehoe - no report (revisit in new year)

- Former REACH students, now freshmen created tools for executive functioning. The resource will be available to students soon.

President – Patti Berner

- **New!** (3) 2021 Parent Info Nights (REACH sponsored) planned, **Feb?** (Program Review Update), Mar/Apr.(Appeals), and May (“New to REACH”)
- **Updates** - Monthly meetings (topics) - Feb (elem math, “fun”, guest, STEM Dir, Dave Beedy), Mar (appeals)
Dave Beedy will present at the REACH Parents Group February 12, 2021 meeting - making and keeping math fun; more geared towards elementary, but with great resources for older students.
- **New!** Teacher Donations (Continued Support) - [Letter to Teachers](#), [Thank You’s!](#)
- [PTA Council](#) updates - none. No January meeting.
- **TBA** YHS-NHS “Online Peer Tutoring Initiative” - no updates
- **New!** IAGC - [Director letter](#), several items - discuss/thoughts? - membership or specific content interest
- This [link](#) will take you to “all things REACH Parent Group”
- [Rep Role Description](#) - share REACH Newsletter with PTA’s for News/Web updates
- REACH Reps - additional details [FORM](#) & [RESULTS](#); *helpful - esp. for Info Nights*

ALL Reps

- Elem, math kits (for Math Nights)
- MS Math Leagues (Churchville, Bryan, Sandburg - reimbursements requested?)
- Other topics?

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

<p>Next REACH Parent Group Meeting – FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2021 (Virtual) at 11:30AM-1:00 PM. Meeting topic(s): TBA. Zoom Link TBA</p>
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PAST ITEMS - Any Feedback?

- 12/8, 6:30 pm - Thrive205-Parent Engagement Series, #1 of 6, *Fine Tuning Your Hybrid Learning Environment (recorded)*
Patti feels that the presentations (she viewed) are more towards elementary students, not as much for older students.
Elmhurst Youth Commission - all questions posted ahead of time were answered
- 12/10, 7:30 pm - Special BOE Meeting

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UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS

January, 2021

- 1/12 Tue, 7:00 pm - BOE Meeting
- 1/26 Tue, 7:00 pm - BOE Meeting

Feburary, 2021

- Feb - TBA REACH sponsored - Parent Info Night - "REACH Program Review" post-BOE presentation
 - Feb 2 Tue, 6-8 p - [D205 SROH](#) (Summer Recreation Open House)
 - Feb 6 Sat, 7 pm - Foundation 205, [Virtual Showcase 2021](#)
 - Feb 8-19- In-Person CogAT Testing, 5th graders
 - Feb 9 - program review to Board of Education
 - Feb 12 - Dave Beedy, guest at monthly REACH meeting
 - Mar 1-12 - In-Person CogAT Testing, 2nd Graders
 - Late March - Notification of Identification for Program
 - Mar/Apr - 7 pm - TBA REACH sponsored - Parent Info Night - "Appeals"
 - April 5 - Appeals Open
 - May - 7 pm - TBA REACH sponsored - Parent Info Night - "New to REACH"
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Helpful Links

DISTRICT

- [OpenD205](#)
- [D205 REACH](#)
- [D205 BOE Calendar](#)
- [Foundation 205](#)
- [Elmhurst Music Boosters](#)
- [Thrive205](#) – A School & Community Wellness Partnership
- [D205 SROH](#) (Summer Recreation Open House)

REACH Parent Group

- [REACH Parent Group](#)
- [2020-21 List of School Representatives](#)
- [Patti Berner](#), Chair 2018-2020.
- Social Media: [Facebook page](#), [Elementary School parent group](#), [Middle School parent group](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)

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Participants (21 - not all identified on call):

- Patti Berner
- Ioana Fernandez
- Jill McCall
- Anna Wick
- Kelly Perry
- Kerry Mansfield
- Bruce Blythe
- Pragna Dave
- Sharon Lower
- Naoko Ostermann
- Craig Grossardt
- Lynn Taub
- Vanessa Paoli
- Rebecca Harpster
- Gina Padgett