

## **REACH Parent Group MINUTES**

11:30am-1:00pm, Friday **FEBRUARY 12, 2021**

**Virtual via on Zoom (ID: 810 8484 0538 & Passcode: 776727.)** [note new ID/PC EACH MTG!]

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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 6 of 9)

**D205 Guests:** Guest Presenter, Dave Beedy, D205 Director of STEM Education.

**Meeting topic(s)** - "Keeping Math Fun!" Dave will share math programs, applications, games and more to engage your student. Primary focus is on elementary age kids with a few middle school resources included too.

Plus, here Dave's thoughts on York Students helping Middle Schoolers!

- NHS Online Peer Tutoring Initiative
  - MEZ - Math Enrichment Zooms
  - Tuesday Technologies
- Former REACH students, now York freshmen, will be at the next monthly meeting.
- You can see Dave's full presentation at: <http://bit.ly/2N0PZff> (This presentation also includes his full list of suggested games)
  - Some of his suggested games include:
    - Dragonbox Numbers (one time cost of \$7) for pre-K, K, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade
    - Dragonbox Big Numbers (again one time cost) for 1<sup>st</sup> -> 4th Grades
    - Dragonbox Elements for 1<sup>st</sup> -> 5<sup>th</sup>. Focuses on Geometry.
    - Dragonbox Algebra 5+/12+
    - Polyup (Free). Can be used on any web browser. (Start in K/1<sup>st</sup> Grade -> College)

Other Games:

Muggins, Yahtzee, Prime Club, Farkle, Set

Misc Info:

- Over 200 York Students volunteered to help younger students with their studies in both elementary and middle schools. If you would like to use this resource, reach out to your student's teacher or principal.

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

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

Treasurer - Carrie Kaufman - Budget Update, Total \$2150 (approx \$385 avail - *need to decide how to use it.*), Reps, remind teachers-submit [reimbursement form!](#) As of 2/1 we have reimbursed just 67% ( \$851.91) of the expected \$1,273.19 approved Teacher Donations requests. Four schools are outstanding. (IML too, \$150/MS.)

Website Administrator - Anna Wick

Social/Social Media - Ioana Fernandez

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

- Only one school is active with this right now – Edison. Please contact Gwen if you are looking to start this at your school – GwenMN@aol.com.

Freshman Prep (*renamed*) - Amy Kehoe. See Tuesday Technologies - great resource!

President – Patti Berner

- Thank you! Becca Harpster, (former Bryan Rep)
- Open positions for 2021-22 - Chairperson, Reps, Treasurer and Secretary
- (3) 2021 Parent Info Nights (REACH sponsored) planned
  - March TBA (Program Recommendations to BOE, Update)
  - April 5 (Appeals)
  - May TBA (“New to REACH”)
- Monthly meetings (topics)
  - March (appeals & Tuesday Technologies)
  - April (REACH Program/BOE Pres. Update)
  - May (2021-22 Planning, invite new Reps)
- Teacher Donations - Reps make purchase for them (or get reimbursement)
- PTA Council updates - Gina Padgett
  - No foreign language at Elementary school level anymore. Talks about the Park District doing something about this or PTAs.
  - Kids are starting to go back into school.
- IAGC - [Director letter](#) - 2nd request
- This [link](#) will take you to “all things REACH Parent Group”
- [Rep Role Description](#) - share REACH Newsletter with PTA’s for News/Web updates

ALL Reps

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

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- Other topics?

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

#### ***\*PAST ITEMS - Any Feedback?\****

- Jan 8 REACH Mtg
- Jan BOE Meetings
- Feb 2 SROH

### **UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS**

#### **February, 2021**

- 2/8 - 2/19 CogAT Testing for 5<sup>th</sup> graders
- 2/16 6:45 pm - BOE Candidate Forum, [see flyer](#) for details
- 2/25 6:00 pm - [MEZ](#) (Math Enrichment Zooms)

#### **March-April, 2021**

- *RESCHEDULED (Date TBD)* - REACH Program Review, Recommendations Update, Parent Info Night (Was originally scheduled for Mon 3/1 at 7 pm.)
  - 3/1-3/12 - In-Person CogAT Testing, 2nd Graders
  - 3/12 Fri 11:30 am - REACH PG monthly meeting, topics (2):
    - 1. REACH Program Review, Recommendations to BOE, Update
    - 2. [Tuesday Technologies](#) (Executive Functioning tools), guests, York Freshmen (former REACH students), Joe Byrne and Jeffrey Lu
  - Late March - Notification of Identification for Program
  - 4/5 - Appeals Open
  - 4/5 Mon 7 pm - REACH Appeals Process, Parent Info Night
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