



Pelham PTAC Meeting of the Association

Thursday October 6th, 2022 8:45AM

ATTENDEES

PTAC Board:

Annemarie Garcia, President

Tiffany Herbert, Vice President

Allison Anderson, Community Engagement Co-Chair

Kristen Whalen, Secretary

Association and Guests:

Dr. Cheryl Champ

David Sparano

Jeri Shelly

Marjut Herzog

Laura Caruso

Monika Konieczna

Jennie Utsinger

Lynda Banfield

Stephanie Otero

Kate Carpenter

Sara Mallach

Katie Caufield

Leah Tahbaz

Theresa Mohan

Pilar Bartlett

Pavlina Berti

Nandini Anandu

Dr. Michael Owen-Michaane

Allison Frost

Amanda Bartley

Kim Espinosa

Lisa Horten

Kim Melloy

Beth Ricci

Traci Holtz

Dr. Dashima Carthen-Brown

Silmara Sucena

TOTAL: 34

Alex Wolff

Suany Aquino

Amanda Jaskiewicz

Call to Order - 8:45AM - Annemarie Garcia

Starting off with Dr. Champ's update...

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE - Dr. Cheryl Champ:

- ★ Good morning
- ★ Digital Citizenship Month
 - Partnering with PTAC and Pelham Together
 - Mrs. Delmastro and librarians
 - Pair w/curriculum work
 - Social Media
 - Safety
 - Communications
- ★ In-Person Events
 - Very excited for back to in-person events
 - Curriculum Nights
 - best attended so far!
 - Framework of curriculum for parents
 - Math in Focus (Singapore based)
 - Oct 17th next Curriculum Night
 - 10/27 - Senior Haunted House - PMHS
 - Open to all
- ★ Homecoming - Friday
 - Football - opponents forfeited - no football game
 - Girls Varsity Field Hockey to be highlighted in place - 7PM
- ★ Halloween - 10/31
 - Parades start 1:45PM
 - Options
 - Parents can pick up and take kids home for lunch and change
 - Parents can send costume in to school to change in classroom
 - Those not participating - alternative activities will be provided
- ★ DEI Coordinator
 - Still looking for appropriate candidate
 - Internal conversations to re evaluate approach for our district

Q: (Suany) If external search - will the person be available to the entire district?

A: (Dr. Champ) Yes. We'd like to hire internally but we are revisiting. Don't yet know if position will be P/T or F/T.

Q: (Allison) Recommended age for the Haunted House?

A: Open to all but it is scary, use your best judgment.

Q: (Kim) Do we have an update on the Hutch upper playground and teacher parking?

A: Per Mr. Hricay, Teacher lot to open ASAP. Playground is on top of additional rock, need to find a solution. Playground opening potentially pushed back.

Comment: (Dave Sparano) Want to say Thank You! Siwanoy kids were cheering at the smell of Pelham Pizza! Fair warning, still have to accept the veggies that are on the menu.

Comment: If you are eligible for Free Lunch, Pizza day is included in that program

Back to Annemarie - introducing Dr. Michael Owen-Michaane

BoE Update - Dr. Michael Owen-Michaane:

- ★ Last BoE meeting
 - Many National Merit Students
 - Very exciting
- ★ Testing
 - Board closely monitoring Regents and NYS testing results
 - Evaluate for students and teachers to have the support they need
- ★ Next BoE Meeting 10/11
- ★ Ongoing updates from Dr. Champ and Dr. Bowman
- ★ Quite a few applications for Committees and Chairs
- ★ First Board Coffee
 - parking/playground
 - HS French

- Orchestra
- Community Engagement

Q: (Suany) Does the district look at how many activities are done for schools b/t the Village and the Manor?

A: (Michael) We try to make accessible and the hope is Community Engagement will be able to extend and maximize accessibility throughout the district.

(Dr. Champ) Working on ensuring that going forward that accessibility is prioritized.

9:19 AM

Digital Citizenship - Annemarie Garcia:

- ★ "Pause Before You Post" Campaign
- ★ Positive Post-Its
 - Elementary Principals collaborating

PTAC REMINDERS

- ★ PTAC amplifying communications
- ★ Remember to VOTE on PTAC By-Laws
- ★ 1st Membership Payments Due by 10/31
- ★ File 990s by 11/15

PTAC Business

9:21AM - PTAC MINUTES - 9/8/22

- ★ Annmarie asked for a motion
- ★ Dave Sparano made motion to approve minutes
- ★ Theresa Mohan seconded the motion
- ★ 9/8/22 Minutes Approved

Treasurer Report - Annemarie:

- ★ Suzanne not in attendance
- ★ No update
- ★ All units paid

Communications - Annemarie:

- ★ Melissa not in attendance

★ Allison and Chanell - Community Engagement

- Support District wide communication
- Amplifying comms
 - Throughout District
 - Across Units
- If we can align the events then we can get more community support
- Collaboration and alignment
- Supporting Families
 - Professional Development Days
 - Collaborate with Rec Dept. re: childcare/activities
- Potential Alignment
 - Green Committees
 - Sustainability
 - Talent Show
 - HS and MS meetings coming soon

Q: (Amanda J) Is the budgeted item for Pelham Together going towards Community Engagement?

A: (Annemarie) No. The unit dues is being increased so that our budget is better equipped to support the initiatives including Community Engagement.

9:30 AM - COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

Pelham Together - Laura Caruso:

★ Parenting in the Digital Age

- At Meridian
- 10/13
- For Parents of 5-12 yr olds
- Facilitated by two Pelham moms

★ Positive Post-Its

- Happening at HS 4-5 yrs
- Student Council will work with MS Club
- Spread throughout the District Packaging of traditional treats
- 10/17
- Spread Positivity throughout the school

- Elementaries to participate
- ★ 10/20 - Ducktail off of HS - SCREENAGERS Part II
 - Pelham Picture House
 - 60 Min Film
 - Q&A following film
- ★ Social Media & Advisory Board Mtng
 - Packaging of traditional treats being pirated w/edibles
 - Look for packaging stating THC
 - Alerting all parents to check all packaging and candy before children consume

PEF - Pelham Education Foundation -Kate Carpenter:

- ★ Not much to update
- ★ Please send new ideas our way
- ★ Please encourage Teacher engagement

9:37 AM

JLP - Junior League of Pelham - Allison Anderson:

- ★ Planning Fall Community Round Table
 - Strengthening community ties
 - Sometime in November - TBA nxt week
 - Disaster Risk Reduction
 - Would like student involvement
 - Sustainability
 - What can Pelham Rec do?
 - Younger than HS
 - Groups / clubs / environmental / sustainability

Pelham Recreation - Could not be here

Pelham Civics - Could not be here

Project Community - Could not be here

PTA Update - Annemarie Garcia:

- ★ From Melissa - Units doing a great job with communications and sharing
- ★ Marjut - keep eyes out for NYS and National PTA grant applications and Scholarships
- ★ Share unit newsletters to NYS
- ★ Share from NYS to indiv. units

9:42 AM

Q: (Kim Melloy) Class Parties? Food in classrooms?

A: Change across the board, moving to non-food based celebrations. No goodie bags w/ food.

Q: (Stephanie) PEF can be done for individual units?

A: (Kate/Dr. Champ) needs to be a district request. SEPTA encompasses all 6 schools.

9:47 AM

Wag-A-Thon - Beth Ricci

- ★ 10/23
- ★ Supporting Science Research students / amplify Pelham
- ★ Dogs parading
- ★ Any donation appreciated

DeCiccis - Theresa Mohan:

- ★ Restructuring of program has had a HUGELY NEGATIVE impact
- ★ Annemarie provided a brief overview of changes
- ★ Suggestions
 - Indiv school barcodes at registers
 - Pelham Examiner article
- ★ Theresa - Can units send previous numbers vs. new system numbers?
 - Need to highlight amount of \$ being lost
 - HS reporting over \$10k lost from past year
 - Hutch - went from \$5-600/month to \$2-300 all year for last year

Comments/Questions ---

- Could all donations be to District then distributed? How to execute?
- Sara Mallach: Jen Silvester should have numbers on this. Issue was explored previously. Previously DeCiccis declined suggestion for bar codes or cards at register
- Sara - There are links in all school newsletters to register your cards
- No signage regarding program

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- Cashiers unaware of program or to ask for customer card
 - ★ Issue to be explored further

10:01 AM - Annemarie Garcia - Meeting Adjourned, Happy Halloween!

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kristen G. Whalen, Secretary 10.30.22