

East Rutherford PTA Meeting
Location: Faust School
2.4.26

Called to order 7:01 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

PTA Mission

Our websites:

East Rutherford PTA: <http://www.erboe.net/domain/124>

NJ PTA: <http://www.njpta.org/>

National PTA: <http://www.pta.org/>

PTA Who's Who:

President: Kevin Lyon

Vice President: Jillian Cawley

Recording Secretary: Tara Pachon

Corresponding Secretary: Christine Green

Treasurer: Paola Restrepo

Membership: Charise Brown

Bylaws: Shannon Cowan

Ways & Means Fundraising: Linda Lyon

Cultural Events: Elyssa Martino Foster

Social Media & Communications: Holly Wagner

McKenzie Rep: Natasha Bonilla

Lincoln Rep: Rose Ampuero

Faust Rep/8thGrade Committee: Christine Green & Melissa Hall

Agenda

- **Approval of Minutes:**
 - January Meeting Minutes - Approved

- **Reports of Officers:**
 - A. Treasurer's Report

- Reports are posted on the PTA page on the district website
 - <http://www.erboe.net/page/1630>
 - 8th grade committee reports on as well

B. Correspondence

- Thank you for generous spread for our Professional Development day, from EREA
- Thank you for the enjoyable lunch provided for January 8, from Mrs. Barrale, Mr. Barrow, Mr. Vilardi
- We are truly grateful for your continued partnership, From BNL school Pictures

C. By Laws & Standing Rules

- Report on PTA page of District website

D. Membership Report

- The committee helps spread word about all the amazing things our PTA does and solicits new members to join our organization. The committee is year long, the primary activity occurs during the first few months of school.
- Sign up Links are available on PTA on the district website and on the PTA Facebook page. Individual Member = \$10
 - <http://weareerpta.givebacks.com/shop/items/22709>
- Currently 228 Members (140 Individual, 88 Teacher/staff)

● Reports of Committees

○ Fundraising

- We are dedicated to ensuring we have enough funding to accomplish all our goals. This team plans and executes events and causes throughout the year.
- Big Box Cards:
 - Sale completed today, 2/4
- Getrude Hawk:
 - Spring sale is up and running,
 - A portion of these proceeds will go to the 8th grade committee.
 - Orders due back February 23rd;
 - March 23rd delivery, tentatively
- Holiday Shoppe:
 - Company reached out to say thank you for another great season
- Dine & Donates:
 - Jersey Mikes - Thursday, Feb 26

- Valid only at 50 Rt 17 North, ER or via app. (use code JMGIVES)
 - Tricky Tray (May) - Sub-committee ensures our annual Tricky Tray is an amazing experience for all. The Committee solicits donations, plans, setup and executes the event. (January- May)
 - Planned for May 15th
 - Givebacks shop - sign up, put on your phone, a small percentage goes back to PTA, but adds up!
 - Spirit Wear
 - Proceeds back to PTA
 - Shop at: <http://1stplace.sale/107768>
- Cultural Events
 - 2025/2026 Events - Welcome to Ideas
 - PTA Cultural Events Committee celebrates the diversity of our ER School District by planning and executing fun filled activities for our families
 - Kids Night Out
 - March 20th - Lincoln
 - March 21st - McKenzie
- Social Media & Communications:
 - We make every effort to keep the public and our school community informed of the PTA activities and happenings through our Website, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube, Newsletters and Emails.
 - Information and events are constantly posted and updated on our socials. Updates when made available from the schools & important PTA info is posted in real time. Great resource to stay up to date on what is happening.
 - <http://weareerpta.givebacks.com/>
 - Instagram: @erptahost
 - <http://instagram.com/erptahost>
 - Facebook: “East Rutherford NJ PTA -Members Only” & “East Rutherford NJ PTA”
 - <http://www.facebook.com/ERNJPTAHost>
 - YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/@eastrutherfordnjpta4627>
- School Reps
 - McKenzie (Natasha Bonilla)
 -
 - Lincoln (Rose Ampuero)
 - Kids Night Out plans in the works

- Reach out if interested in Volunteering
 - Faust (Christine Green)
 - 8th Grade Committee (Christine Green, Melissa Haskel)
 - Fundraise to offset cost of yearbooks, formal, class gift
 - Dine and Donate 2/4 at Charlie Bloods
 - Valentine Grams deadline 2/6
 - Gertrude hawk sale ends 2/23
 - Double Good popcorn 2/16-2/20
- **Administration Updates:**
 - Mrs. Barrale
 - Clean communities presentation - extremely insightful, brought awareness to reducing litter, protecting our environment and promoting a sense of pride in our community
 - 1/13 band and choir performed at the community center. Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Schweikart for putting musical event together
 - National Junior Honor Society induction with Mrs. Barrale, Mr. Tunell and BOE members and spelling bee was in January
 - Student council community service trip at Mara Center for Early Childhood learning/YMCA, very warm welcome, inspiring. Hands on experiments, practiced leader ship
 - Honors placement exams for Becton 9th grade
 - 2/6 Wear Red to support the American Heart Association.
 - Mr. Barrow
 - Clean Communities Presentation as well.
 - Last week had parent academy, helping little ones handle big emotions, parents guide to coping skills. Thank all that attended, Dr. Lee and Mrs Credico that put it together. Great success
 - Celebrated Wildcats of the month, went extremely well
 - Joined in on Global playday today 2/4 in the afternoon.
 - Wear red 2/6 for American Heart Association and 2/6 concludes annual super bowl can drive. Goes towards local food pantries.
 - 2/11 We celebrate 100th day of school.
 - Thursday, 2/12 Pediatric Dental health assembly for prek and K students.
 - Zumba day - 2/24
 - PreK registration communication will be coming out soon.

- Mr. Scarafile (Interim Superintendent)
 - Very impressed with PTA, you are together, active. Keep up good work, lots of good things for the students, teachers. Very impressed with the respect and how the students carry themselves, this is a reflection of the parents and educators.
 - In the process of putting out a re-registration of every student, every family in the district this year. It will be easy, one stop shop. Will be via online, if difficulty will have one Saturday session and one Wednesday session, dates tba. (process will be tentatively March 1-April)
 - With the free prek program, need to make sure the funding is going to those that are East Rutherford residents. As long as the funding is coming, an additional 3 pre-k classes (approx 45 students) will be housed at kiddie academy on union ave in Rutherford.

- Mr. Vilardi
 - Clean Communities Presentation as well, was fantastic
 - Wear red 2/6 for American Health Health
 - Embedded into program to celebrate Martin Luther King Day
 - Live stream with London west end theater participated in a global Wicked Sing along, very cool visual arts opportunity.
 - Testing assessment was 1.5 weeks ago, the students rocked it.
 - State testing, waiting for information from the state.
 - Black history month, embed into the curriculums
 - Global school play day was today, was an awesome opportunity, they bring in toys, get creative, play uno, build forts. Very impressed.
 - In coordination with ERPD to schedule our 5th grade L.E.A.D. program, more info to come. Fortunate to have ERPD to come in to help support and a healthy and drug free lifestyle within our community.
 - Report cards go live 2/11
 - President Day Recess 2/16, 2/17 - no school
 - Parent Teacher conferences 2/26 - One session day for students
 - March 5 - staff professional day, one session day for students

East Rutherford Recreation Speaker

- Evelyn Samtak (Event Coordinator)
- esamtak@eastrutherfordnj.net
- 201-207-6501
 - Events on town website, flyers in backpack
 - <http://www.eastrutherfordnj.net/>

*Public meetings first Tuesday of the month, community center

*Friends of East Rutherford looking for more members if you want to join

- 250th Anniversary -
 - Next year we celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the USA.
 - ER will be hosting a celebration on June 20th at Riggins field
 - PTA is asked to be part of the planning and event. The planning committee meets twice a month, first Wednesday . We would need a member to attend as many of these and keep us up to day.
 - [Http://www.eastrutherfordnj.net/](http://www.eastrutherfordnj.net/)
- **Town Events/Dates:**
 - “No Camping Camp Night” - Friday, Feb 27th
 - 6-10:30pm at Community Center
 - Must register and accompanied by adult
 - 250th Anniversary of America Celebration - date changed to June 20
 - Fifa World Cup coming to Metlife in June and July
- **Upcoming Events**
 - <http://wearerpta.givebacks.com/w/Events>
 - <http://www.eastrutherfordnj.net/>
 - Teacher Luncheon - Feb 26 tba
 - Smoke Detector grant - tba
 - Distribution the detectors at Camp Event - 2/27
 - Kids night out -
 - Lincoln March 20th
 - McKenzie March 21st
 - McKenzie St. Patricks Day Coin Challenge - March 1-13
 - Tricky Tray - May 15th
- **Upcoming School Dates:** *(Calendar is on ERBOE site)*
 - School Closed - Feb 16 & 17 (Presidents Day Recess)
 - Half Day - Feb 26
 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - Half Day - March 5
 - Teacher Professional Day

New/Other business & Open discussion:

Feb 2-6 National School Counseling Week

- To our amazing counseling team:
 - Brittany Gomez (McKenzie)
 - Isabel Kim (Lincoln)
 - Shanelle Muse (Faust)
- Thank you for your endless patience, empathy and for helping our students build the confidence they need to succeed

Friday, February, 6th

- Crossing Guard Appreciation Day
 - We are very thankful for our wonderful crossing guards who help our students, parents and staff everyday.

Nominating committee 2026:

- Three members to be nominees: Emily Landolfi, Christine Green and Rose Ampuro. They evaluate all the possible nominees for each position. This forms in January for elections to be held in April, to be announced at the May meeting.
 - 2026 elections
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Recording Secretary
 - Corresponding Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Vice President and Corresponding Secretary will be 1 year term for this year only. All others are 2 year term
 - If interested in any of these positions, our standing rules are on the ERPTA website and bylaws.

New Sub committees would love to create:(available with grants to offset cost)

- PTA Grant Application:
- Kiddle Alarm Donation Opportunity - TBD distribution
 - National PTA teamed up with Kidde to provide families with free smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms
 - ER PTA has been awarded, if accepted PTA will receive 160 (80 smoke alarms and 80 carbon monoxide alarms)

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Check ERPTA page, *volunteer tab*
 - <http://wearerpta.givebacks.com/w/volunteer>

ER Library has many events and opportunities for children, teens, and adults!

Next Meeting March 4th @ 7pm at Faust Media Room

Meeting Adjourned: 7:35 pm