



McKinley School PTA
60 Thompson Street
Fairfield, CT 06825
mckinleyschoolpta.membershiptoolkit.com



McKinley School PTA
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 15, 2023; VIRTUAL

Attendance: Alison Seyal, Sofia Luciano, Mike Patrona, Carla Patrona, Elizabeth Chatel, Danielle Bieling, Jessica Curtis, Jessica Decker, Erik Hayden, Christy Guilfoyle, Jenn Arata, Sonal Rajan, Katie Romeo, Sarah Muldowney, Michelle Walker, Elaine Davis, Ryan SanAngelo, Chrissy Fernandez, Grace Calderon, Crina Cody, Alex Kogan, Nicole Parker

1. Call to order - Sonal Rajan
 1. Sonal called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
2. Teacher Representative Report - Jessica Curtis
 1. Jessica reported on behalf of Principal Gingrave, who was unable to attend. Principal Gingrave wanted to remind families about standardized testing occurring this month in school: SBA in grades 3-5 and STAR in grades K-5.
 2. Jessica reported that Principal Gingrave wanted to let families know about Parent Square: the new phone app for receiving notifications and messages from school staff, including your child's teacher
 3. Jessica reminded attendees to pay close attention to the calendars for May and June, as there are many end of year events to be aware of
 4. Jessica thanked PTA for all the teachers received during Teacher Appreciation Week, and expressed how grateful they all were. They especially liked the Friday afternoon coffee cart.
3. Reports:
 - President's Report - Sonal Rajan
 - Sonal thanked the PTA members, the PTA Board, Principal Gingrave, and Jessica Curtis for a great year.
 - Treasurer's Report - Sofia Luciano
 - Sofia reported that everything has been paid up to date.
 - Carnival - Katie Romeo
 - Katie reported that this year's April carnival was successful.
 - Katie reported that next year's carnival will be held April 19-21, 2024. This is the second week-end of Spring Break, so some McKinley families and other Fairfield families may be away, but PTA does not get to choose the date and will do their best to make it as successful as this year. After 2024, Spring Break will likely be earlier in April, so the carnival hopefully won't overlap.
 - Teacher Appreciation Week - Chrissy Fernandez
 - Chrissy reported that Teacher Appreciation Week was a huge success this year.
 - Chrissy and the teachers are happy with the new signs she made for outside the classrooms. Principal Gingrave will keep her updated on staff changes as it pertains to the signs.
 - PTA Council - Mike Patrona
 - Mike reminded families to utilize the new phone app School Dismissal Manager to notify your child's teacher of dismissal plans and changes or school absences.
 - Mike reported that PTAC plans to come out with potential redistricting maps in June. They would like a parent representative from McKinley to be part of the process.
 - Mike relayed that PTAC is looking for support (and funding) with regard to the GreenTeam, which has really taken off in other schools. McKinley hopes to grow this further at our school. Katie asked for volunteers.
 - Board of Education - Elaine Davis & Michelle Walker
 - Michelle reported that high school valedictorians and salutatorians have been chosen

- Elaine reported that there is a new ELA curriculum for the 2024-2025 school year, which is a scripted curriculum (some teachers worried this will limit teacher autonomy)
- Michelle reported BOE voted unanimously on the new Pre-K ELA program World of Wonders
- Michelle reported BOE voted 7:2 on the new K-5 ELA program Into Reading
- Elaine reported that cell phone use is no longer permitted (for personal use) by FPS employees while at work
- Elaine reported that the BOE budget passed with no additional cuts
- Elaine reported that the education budget passed in the amount of \$210,163,445, including a \$480,000 cut. Employee insurance plans and pensions will be cut, but educational programming will not be affected.
- Elaine reported that McKinley and Holland Hill Elementary Schools will receive roof replacements
- Elaine reported that there is a new Math Executive Director: Dr. Nicole Danishevsky.
- Elaine reported that McKinley alum Ryan Romeo planted a tree in front of Tomlinson MS, leading BOE to commit to planting a tree in front of every public school in Fairfield.

6. Old Business

1. No old business to report

7. New Business

1. Slate 2023-24 Vote — Sarah Muldowney, Carla Patrona & Sonal Rajan

1. Carla presented the 2023-24 Slate and asked for a motion to approve the Slate. Elaine motioned to approve. Mike seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Slate is approved.

President: Katie Romeo

President Elect: tbd

Treasurer: Sofia Luciano

Assistant Treasurer: Jennifer Quiles

Secretary: Alison Seyal

VP Communications & Membership: Chrissy Fernandez

VPs Fun & Fundraising: Christy Guilfoyle, Danielle Bieling, Jenn Arata

VPs Programming: Liz Chatel, Ryan SanAngelo

Board of Ed & Budget Reps: Michelle Walker

Special Education PTA (SEPTA) Rep: Erik Hayden

PTA Council (PTAC) Reps: Laura Veneman

Principal: Teresa Gingrave

Teacher Rep: Jessica Curtis

Advisor/Past President: Sonal Rajan

8. Adjourn meeting

1. Sonal adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

- Meeting schedules, agendas and minutes are posted to <https://mckinleyschoolpta.membershiptoolkit.com/meetings>