

**East Ruther PTA Meeting
Lincoln School
4.2.25**

Called to order 7:02 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

Fundraising: Linda Lyon

Cultural Events: Elyssa Martino Foster

Social Media: Holly Wagner

McKenzie Rep: Cindy Tejada

Lincoln Rep: Tara Pachon

Faust Rep: Shannon Cowan

Agenda

- **Approval of Minutes:**
 - March Meeting Minutes - passed

- **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

- None

C. By Laws & Standing Rules

- Report on PTA page of District website

D. Membership Report

- Sign up Links are available on PTA on district website and on the PTA Facebook page
- Currently 191 Members

● **Reports of Committees**

A. Fundraising

- Needs 3rd grade, 5th grade, 8th grade committees to develop & come up with fundraisers specific to those grades.
 - Dine & Donates going towards 3rd & 5th Grade celebrations
- *Looking for general fundraiser committee*
- *Tricky tray committee:* Email :charise314@gmail.com
 - May 9th Event
 - Gathering donations now, tickets to be sold at later date
 - Flyers went out to the schools. QR code for amazon wish list, accepting venmo donations.
 - Amazon purchases needed by April 15.
- Givebacks shop - sign up, put on your phone, a small percentage goes back to PTA, but adds up!
- Gertrude Hawk - in process of being packed & shipped, delivery date to Lincoln set on 4/7, time TBA. Net proceeds TBA.
 - Run by 8th grade committee
 - Going towards end of year formal
- Shoe donation - *NEED Volunteers!* Email: erptafundraising@gmail.com
 - Feb 1st collection starts - extended through April
 - Box bins will be in each lobby of each school
 - Shoes days Tuesdays
 - 2/22 had drive and drop at DPW
 - 3/22 drive and drop at DPW**successful
 - Volunteer here: <http://signup.com/go/RaovuhW>
 - Collecting pairs of shoes, any category of shoe size, can be sports shoes. Gentle used/usable, Goes toward 3rd world countries for

entrepreneurial programs . Full pairs, rubber banded or shoe laces tied together.

- Pick up bins at the schools;
- Approx: \$2000 profit; 25 pairs/bag; challenge is 150 bags
- Accepted Donated shoes at Kids Night Out, were entered into a special Raffle to win a prize that night of your KNO.
- March: coin collection for McKenzie only. Cookie decorating prize to 3rd grade class that had most coins - Mrs Alkalaides class
 - New raised: \$1964
- Spirit Wear Spring Sale
 - Save 20% with code: SPRING
 - Extended to 4/8
 - Shop at: <http://1stplace.sale/107768>
 - Outgrown/gentle used spirit wear can be donated to Nurse Dunn for the use of students that may have an accident at school

B. Cultural Events

- 2025 Events - Welcome to Ideas

C. Social Media & Tech

- 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
- New Instagram: @erptahost
- Facebook: “East Rutherford NJ PTA -Members Only” & “East Rutherford NJ PTA”

D. School Reps

- McKenzie
 - 3rd grade committee
- Lincoln
 - Homeroom reps
 - please reach out to the homeroom teacher or email erptahost@gmail.com
 - Kids Night Out : Dress for the Decades - Fun & successful
 - Lincoln, Friday, March 21 6-8 p
 - McKenzie, Saturday, March 22 3-5 p
 - See below for Thank you and Acknowledgements
 - 5th grade committee - Will start looking to get committee together
- Faust
 - None

- 8th Grade Committee
 - No updates

- **Administration Updates**
 - A. Mrs. Barrale
 - All ELA teachers have incorporated the importance of reading into daily lessons to celebrate Read across America month.
 - All Lessons honoring Women's History Month
 - Mr. Tunnel & 8th grade NJHS, visited McKenzie 3/26 to read to the students
 - NJHS facilitated activities in the classroom
 - 3/6 mental health & wellness assemble was well received
 - Annual basketball game ERPD/ERFD vs 8th grade students 3/19 was a great success
 - Ms. Machere and students - Art Display at Maywood month exhibit, proud and did well.
 - Preparing for testing

 - B. Mr. Barrow
 - Download district app and stay up to date
 - Wildcat of the Month and recognition Roar assembles continue to highlight positive behavior and citizenship throughout the building.
 - Coin challenge - 3rd grade winner, 2nd grade team close. Fun healthy competition
 - Read Across America week. Over 300 guest readers over the month. Appreciate all the collaboration throughout the community.
 - Pre K registration has now closed, Ms Cindy Valez was the contact person, 3-4 weeks before we have a lottery for that. Any questions please ask Ms. Valez
 - Kindergarten concert today, 4/2 under direction of Ms Hernandez. Phenomenal job
 - Autism acceptance spirit week this week, Thurs 4/3 wear red day.
 - Important Character Ed assemble coming up called Lead You about respect, resilience, communication, tolerance and mindfulness- thank you ERPTA & ERPD for their support . Held on 4/10 in morning.
 - 5/5 multi-cultural day
 - NJSLA testing coming up

 - C. Mr. Giancaspro (on behalf of Mr. Vilardi)
 - Updated school calendar for 24/25 is updated on the district website. The three unused snow days were returned to us.
 - One session days: 6/12, 6/13 & last day of school 6/16 half day as well.

- 25/26 calendar is live on website as well, first day of school for 25/26 school year is 9/4
- NJSLA coming in May, attendance & effort very important, sitting for those practice tests, showing up and doing their best
- It was our growth and achievement scores that labeled us a high performing district.
- Enjoy Spring Break in good health with family and loved ones and as the weather turns.

D. Mr. Vilardi

- WIN period has us busy with our final levels of ELA and math support is being done, simulation tests to prep for 60/90 minute sitting for tests
- One book one school initiative - First book in a series World according to Humphrey. Looking forward to summer reading assignments
- 5th graders wrapping up the LEAD program, less than a month to go.
- Parent academies throughout march - open to hearing from parents feedback and if interested in other topics
- Pi-day challenge, 3/14 - 5 pies were used to pie the teachers.
 - a) 100 digits worth of pi - winner recipient
- MP 3 closes 4/5 this Friday, report cards available 4/11
- Spring break, school is closed week of 4/14 and the monday after easter 4/21
- 5/28 Spring Showcase booked at Becton Regional High School
 - a) Theme: Destination America
- Follow - up for the end school year celebrations, Assembly upcoming, tba - Holly Rock show
- NEHS traveled to McKenzie to read to younger students
- Tentative field trips TBA

East Rutherford Recreation Speaker

- Evelyn Samtak (Event Coordinator)
- esamtak@eastrutherfordnj.net
- 201-207-6501
 - Events on town website, flyers in backpack,
 - Looking into working with Charise for Tricky Tray as well
 - Color Run will be with fall festival this year, 10/11 (rain date 10/12)
 - Team Green: Community Garden registration opened 4/1, opening garden 5/4
 - Egg hunt April 12th @ 6pm;
 - Ages 0 - 8th grade
 - Pta funding the redemption prizes for event \$150
 - Town picnic 6/7
 - Pet Parade
 - June 12th, 6pm Carlton Ave Firehouse start and walk to Sesselman park.

- Live music, pet vendors, family friendly activities; all pets welcome and if don't have a pet, bring your favorite stuffed animal.

- Car Show 6/22

- Camp Counselor registration opened

- Soccer Registration open

- Little league/ softball opening day 4/26 parade

*Public meetings first Tuesday of the month, community center

- **Upcoming Events**

- <http://wearerpta.givebacks.com/w/Events>

- Shoe Drive Drop Off - upcoming dates TBA, collecting through april.

- Tricky Tray - May 9

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- **Upcoming School Dates**

- 4/11 half day

- 4/13-4/21 spring recess

- Revised school calendar

- June 12 ½ day, 13 ½ day

- June 16 ½ day & last day of school

Open discussion:

- Standing Committee Chairpersons:

- 1 year term is coming to end in June

- Chairpersons are welcome to continue

- If we need additional or replacement chairpersons, we will put out a request

Lincoln Request for The Grit Ninja

One hour assembly

3 - 45 minute obstacle

\$3,200 total cost

Also presented to LEAD program for co-host opportunity

Possible look into Faust incorporation.

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Regarding Field Day/end of year: do we reach out to PE teachers and see what we can do to help with field day.

- Field day tshirts - met with art teachers for requirements and Vote on designs end of April; Open to doing different field day items for faust students.

*Becton High school Scholarship:*

Annual Scholarship for becton high graduating senior

Applicants must be former East Rutherford school district students.

*Appreciation days:*

4/2 - Paraprofessionals

4/4 - School Librarians

4/22 - Bus Drivers

4/23 - Administrative Professionals

May1 - Principals

5/2 - School Lunch Heros

5/6 - Teachers

5/7 - School Nurses

ERBOE website→ pta link & givebacks site similar info - volunteer links here

**Closing:**

- Next Meeting Wednesday, May 7, 7pm (Faust School)

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:51 pm**

**Kids Night Out Thank You's & Acknowledgements:**

Kids night out was a Dress for the Decades theme and everyone had a lot of fun with this idea. We had approximately 80 kids + adults Friday Night for Lincoln and approximately 105 kids + adults on Saturday for McKenzie.

First a thank you to all the **kids and their parents/guardians** that attended. We do our events to create community, and have fun outside of school. With the adult collaboration both events went off smoothly and successfully.

Thank you to **Paul DeRosa** and **Mike LaRusso** for the availability of the beautiful *community center*, we are very fortunate to have this amazing space for our community.

Thank you **Tammy Gil** for ensuring a *special officer* to be present at both events.

Thank you **ShopRite of Wallington** for many of our snack, drink and food donations.

Thank you to **Master Pizza** in Carlstadt and **Mr. Pizza** for both of their generous donations of pizza . (and we had a lot of mouths to feed). Thank you to our **board member Elyssa** for facilitating this important task of communicating with both master pizza and mr. pizza.

Thank you to **DJ Gio** for always keeping our parties a blast, playing the right music to keep everyone moving and knowing our crowd.

Thank you **Minutes2Win** it for the Carnival games that are always a hit for our McKenzie kids. And special thank you to our **junior volunteers** that were in charge of the games & distribution of prizes. This was a good opportunity for them to get community service hours: *Conner, Juan, Skyer, Charlotte, Noah, and AJ.*

Thank you **ER library** for the Library of Things loan cornhole games.

Thank you to all our **parents volunteers** that helped with setup, preparing goodie bags, check ins, photo booth, snack/food distribution, tattoo station, and clean up! We couldn't do this without everyone's collaboration.

Thank you both **Lincoln and McKenzie school administration and staff** for your collaboration and distribution of getting the word out and flyers. Thank you **Mr. Vilardi** and his 2 celebrity daughters for stopping in Friday night, they are always a highlight to see and the students of course just as happy to see you too Mr. Vilardi.

Thank you to our very own PTA board member **Cindy Tejada** for her incredible work of balloon decorations. We had a vision and she nailed it as always.

We had a shoe collection donation bin there each of the nights, a raffle ticket was given to those that donated and the winners of the raffles received a gift certificate to Cake and Cone, so thank you **Cake and Cone** for your gift certificate donations.

Thank you to **Paola** (our PTA treasurer) & my co-chair in this event. We too always have a vision and we make it happen, after many many phone calls and messages. Thank you always for facilitating our parents table, which included sodas, seltzers, water, coffee, pastries, empanadas and chicharon. Always well received by the parents (and kids) too.

Lastly, a thank you to our **entire PTA board** for their endless support, getting supplies, printing fliers, posting on social media, making sure all areas were covered to make this event run as smoothly as it did. It is something that when you see the kids having such a blast it makes it 100% worth all the effort!