

**East Ruther PTA Meeting
Lincoln School
3.12.25**

Called to order 7:05 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:**
 - February 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

- Thank you for the delicious sandwiches and snacks during Parent Teacher Conferences - Principals
- Thank you for your kindness and generosity with the Jersey Mikes sandwiches, boosts morale, grateful for all you do - Renee VerMaraglia
- Behalf of all the teachers, you made the day special, thank you for the time, effort and care you put into supporting both the teachers and school community - EREA
- Thank you for the wonder lunch, we love our PTA, you are the best - Faust Teachers

C. By Laws & Standing Rules

- Report TBA

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*
- *Looking for a Tricky tray committee:* Email : charise314@gmail.com
 - May 9th Event
 - Gathering donations now, tickets to be sold at later date
- Givebacks shop - sign up, put on your phone, a small percentage goes back to PTA, but adds up!
- Gertrude Hawk - Feb 10- March 10th, all forms back in by 3/10, ready for delivery April 7
 - Run by 8th grade committee - thank you for helping collect the orders and sort forms and for delivery
 - Approx \$7-8K as of today in online orders, more forms to pick up.
 - Pick up location tbd with principals to see which gymnasium available
 - Going towards end of year formal
- Shoe donation - *NEED Volunteers!* Email: erptafundraising@gmail.com
 - Feb 1st collection starts - March 31st.

- Box bins will be in each lobby of each school
 - Shoes days Tuesdays
 - 2/22 had drive and drop at DPW
 - 3/22 Another drive and drop at DPW**
 - Volunteer here: <http://signup.com/go/RaovuhW>
- Truck pick up mid april. 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 YMCA, at the schools,
- We were contacted by the Women's League in Old Tappan that also did a similar shoe drive and have overflow donations after their event. They are kindly donating their shoes to us.
 - Allowing us to have a bin at their upcoming rummage sale.
- Approx: \$2000 profit; 25 pairs/bag; challenge is 150 bags
- Accepting Donated shoes at Kids Night Out, will be entered into a special Raffle to win a prize that night of your KNO.
- March: coin collection for McKenzie only. Class with the most will get a prize - will be announced on St. Patrick's day. Also grade level Mr. Barrow giving additional incentive
 - Collection: 3/3-3/14
- Spirit Wear Spring Sale
 - Save 20% with code: SPRING
 - 3/10 - 4/1
 - Shop at: <http://1stplace.sale/107768>

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 needed for - 5th grade Ms. Cerny

- please reach out to the homeroom teacher or email erptahost@gmail.com
 - Kids Night Out Committee
 - Lincoln, Friday, March 21 6-8 p
 - McKenzie, Saturday, March 22 3-5 p
 - Volunteer Sign ups here: <http://signup.com/go/gVjafPY>
 - 5th grade committee - Will start looking to get committee together ASAP
 - Faust
 - None
 - 8th Grade Committee
 - Gertrude Hawk 2/10-3/10
 - April dance tba
 - ERPD vs students 3/19 basketball game 7pm
- **Administration Updates**
 - A. Mrs. Barrale (on behalf of Mr. Vilardi)
 - 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, will be visiting McKenzie 3/26 to read to the students
 - 3/6 mental health & wellness assemble was well received
 - Annual basketball game ERPD/ERFD vs 8th grade students 3/19
 - B. Mr. Barrow (on behalf of Mr. Vilardi)
 - Download district app and stay up to date
 - Women's History month - lessons throughout month
 - Wear green friday in honor of St. Patrick's day 3/14; and more spirit days in conjunction with read across america week celebrated, check out on twitter/X handle
 - Wildcat of the Month and recognition Roar assembles continue to highlight positive behavior and citizenship throughout the building.
 - Read across America coming up in March
 - March 5 the Becton National Honor Society came to participate in read alouds. Faust/Lincoln will come to participate 3/26
 - a) Look forward to as many community partnerships as possible
 - b) Welcoming guest readers
 - Kindergarten concert 4/2 @9:30 am - parents welcome, doors open 9:15, more info to come
 - 2/11 parent academy

- Next 3/19 building blocks of communication
- Kindergarten registration; open registration, should be able to register at anytime.
 - a) Contact the school for any questions
- Press release for pre-k registration 3/1 - 3/31 8:30 am for Prek 3 & 4; all prek3 students must register for pre k 4 program to reserve a spot; although we reserve the spots, they carry over with a valid registration. Must complete and resubmit all requirements for registration.
 - a) Info on ERBOE website
 - b) Info on FB pages as well
- Attendance and punctuality is very important

C. Mr. Giancaspro

- Thank you to parents for support with transportation changes this past week and the DPW for their updates
- Swift k-12 changed to parent square platforms- seems like transitioning well. Thank you Mr. Vilardi for spearheading this
- NJCSOC - Parent academy last evening 3/11
- Upcoming: 3/19 Parent academy, language academy given by our district wide speech therapist.
- BOE website has link for parent academies
- NJSLA assessment takes place district wide in May, important for the students to see how they are doing within the district and county. Test scores don't affect promotion of grade levels. It does affect our district performance report. ER is high performing per Qsac.
 - a) Performance assessment report; Remains high performing and passed all areas of Qsat:
 - (1) Performance - Parents don't stress over how your student performs, the educators will use this to guide instruction and addressing the standards
 - (2) Attendance - rated on chronic absenteeism
 - (3) Participation
- 2025/2026 school year budget is in the works. Want to provide a fiscally sound and provide all the services in our district. 3/18 will be passed and then submitted to the county office 3/19. Once approved, the public board budget hearing is 4/24.
- Binds going out soon, out of Long range facility plan done within own budget and funding received for these projects that is reimbursable; exterior doors of faust, BOE Roof, partial roof repair at McKenzie

D. Mr. Vilardi

- CBI run by Mrs. McNeil Faculty coffee cart started & opportunity to promote real functional skills across different domains

- National Elementary honor society with Mr. Tunnel is partnering with an organization called TEAM joining forces with Nyaka schools in Uganda to promote civics and global competencies.
- 5th graders are rocking their LEAD program with ERPD
- Parent Teacher Conferences successful day and teachers/staff appreciated the food
- 3/3 SEL day Positive affirmation throughout day
- Read across America week - Drop everything and read hour - students brought their own books, navigate the library resources, and have a powerful hour.
- NEHS will Travel to McKenzie to read to younger students
- One School One Book program - World of Humphrey was provided to all students and reading as a community
- 3/14 Pi day challenge - the winner can choose teachers to Pie
- 3/6 workshop posted Social media presentation for students then parents; recording becoming available
- Interim reports today 3/12
- May 28 Spring Showcase - Theme Discover Americana
- 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
 - Egg hunt April 12th @ 6pm;
 - Ages 0 - 8th grade
 - Pta funding the redemption prizes for event \$150
 - 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 favorite stuffed animal.

*Public meetings first Tuesday of the month, community center

- **Upcoming Events**
- <http://wearerpta.givebacks.com/w/Events>
- Kids night out - 3/21 Lincoln; 3/22 Mckenzie
- Shoe Drive Drop Off - March 22
- Tricky Tray - May 9

- **Upcoming School Dates**

- None

Open discussion:

- McKenzie assembly ERPD agreed to fund a portion
- Lincoln has assembly idea brought to table of PTA

Interested in talent show - preliminary stages of planning - tba

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

BOE calendar - no snow days used , tentatively give back and end 3 days early, made available after the board votes in April

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

Closing:

- Next Meeting Wednesday, April 2, 7pm (Faust School)

Meeting Adjourned: 7:44 pm