



# Penguin Press

Paumanok  
Elementary School  
PTA Newsletter

September 2019

## Welcome Back to School!

### Upcoming Events

#### September

- 3 – **Staff Luncheon** at 12:00
- 4 – **School Begins**
- 5 – **PTA Meetings** at 9:45 a.m.
- 5 – **New Parent Tea** in the Bonus Room at 10:45 a.m.
- 12 – **Hills on Stage Parent Meeting** at 6:30 p.m. in HSE
- 16 – **BOE Meeting** at 8:00 p.m. at HSE
- 17 – **Fall Photo Day**
- 20 – **Welcome Back Picnic** at 5:00 p.m.
- 23 – **Spiritwear Sale Begins**
- 23 – **Meet the Teacher, Grades 3-5** at 6:30 p.m.
- 24 – **Meet the Teacher, Grades K-2** at 6:30 p.m.
- 30 – **No School**

#### October

- 1 – **No School**
- 2 – **Miss Chocolate Sale** begins (ends 10/16)
- 2 – **PTA Meetings** at 9:45 a.m.
- 9 – **No School**
- 23 – **Spiritwear Sale Ends**
- 14 – **No School**
- 19 – **HHH SEPTA Makerspace Fair** at 11:00 a.m. at HSW
- 21 – **BOE Meeting** at 8:00 p.m. at HSW
- 23-25 – **Book Fair**
- 26 – **Fall Festival** at 12:00
- 29-31 – **Fall Novelty Sale** during lunch periods

### A Note from Mrs. Cooper

#### WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

The beginning of another school year is filled with excitement and great expectations! Paumanok's teachers and staff have been very busy getting the school perfect for September's "*Grand Re-Opening!*" Parents, help make this school year the best for your child by following these helpful tips to promote great thinking skills:

- Encourage your child to wonder about things. For example, "Why is the sky blue?" Together, find answers to questions.
- When reading with your child, have him/her make predictions. Say, "What do you think will happen next?"
- Ask your child about their opinion on interesting subjects. What information does she/he know (or can find out) to support his/her views?
- See daily activities as opportunities to learn. Before you go to the grocery store, for example, discuss how much you can spend. Then use math to stay within your budget.

### President's Corner

Welcome back to another year at Paumanok! The PTA is excited to start a new year welcoming our kindergarteners, the Class of 2025, through our fifth graders, the Class of 2020. Over the summer, we began planning for a wonderful year. The start of school brings so many wonderful new experiences and opportunities for our students, and we hope you can participate in many of the events we have planned.

Please be sure to attend our PTA meeting, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:45am in the Chill Zone (cafeteria) or the recap meeting at 7:30pm to find out what will be planned and how you can get involved. To keep up to date throughout the year, please make sure to like our Facebook page and visit our website: [www.paumanokpta.org](http://www.paumanokpta.org).

Stephanie Jose  
PTA President

[paumanokpta@gmail.com](mailto:paumanokpta@gmail.com)  
917-402-2515

## Welcome to Paumanok!

We have several new members joining the staff this year, and we wanted to welcome them to our Paumanok family.

Kelly McGrath joined the front office team, Katherine Homenides joined first grade, Michelle Schutte and Susan Guevara joined the Reading department, and Kristen Abatemarco joined the Resource Room.

We hope they have a wonderful year!

## Sign up for Remind

Stay informed of upcoming events and all things PTA:

Go to

[www.remind.com/join/paumpta](http://www.remind.com/join/paumpta)

or text @paumpta to the number 81010

## Thank You...

Over the summer, the PTA remains hard at work providing services and opportunities for Paumanok's families.

We would like to thank Danielle Buquicchio and Jessica Maziekas for their wonderful organization and tireless efforts in getting all the school supplies sorted and placed on the children's desks for the start of the school year.

## Outdoor Family Picnic

Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>  
5-7 p.m., Behind the School

Paumanok PTA values family connection time. As the school year begins, we can get so burdened with getting back to routines, adjusting to new classes, and meeting new friends that we can easily forget to just be together.

This is a great time to bring a picnic dinner and a blanket so we can enjoy time with family and friends.

**No food will be served**, but Kona Ice will be available for purchase.

Please be aware that many students in our school have food allergies, so it is always appreciated if everyone avoids bringing nuts to school events to ensure all students' safety.

## Your Questions Answered...

### Why does the PTA have fundraisers?

That fundraiser flyer that goes home can cause a lot of frustration. Every time we turn around, someone is asking us for more money, and sometimes it feels like we have no idea where that money goes.

The PTA supplements the educational experiences in our school, paying for school assemblies, school events, and projects. All of the money that comes into the PTA is accounted for at the monthly meeting budget report.

We try to make fundraisers positive experiences for our students, whether they are geared toward social events, learning opportunities, understanding the value in giving, or increasing independence. Because we incorporate a learning experience in each of the fundraisers, we often don't make a significant monetary profit. Yet the benefits provided to our children are ongoing and enhance their experiences at Paumanok.

### What is PNO?

You will be hearing about PNO – Paumanok Night Out – quite often in the upcoming months. PNO is our biggest fundraiser event of the year, and the funds raised go towards all the amazing Arts & Education programs the PTA provides, including monthly assemblies, Back-to-School Picnic, Fall Festival, Field Day, and Goldilocks Trials.

PNO will be held on Tuesday, 24 March 2020 from 6:30 until 10:30 p.m. at Crest Hollow Country Club. It is an adult-only event consisting of dinner, DJ, and raffles. This year we will be celebrating the Roaring 20s with a Great Gatsby theme.

Tickets cost \$60 each and can be purchased online or at any PTA meeting. If you have any questions, email Aimee Prole at [paumanokpta2vp@gmail.com](mailto:paumanokpta2vp@gmail.com).

### Why doesn't the PTA post photos?

Often we are asked why we don't post photos online of the events we host. In this day and age of technology and privacy, it has become important for PTA's to protect the privacy of our students. We try to post photos online of events so you know what is going on in the school, but we do not post photos of the students. If you'd like to view any of the photos taken by our PTA historian, Christine Arena, they are displayed on a bulletin board outside the main office and are available to take home once removed from there at the following PTA meeting.

Have a question? Email us at [paumanokpta@gmail.com](mailto:paumanokpta@gmail.com), and we will include the answer in our next Newsletter.



**Stephanie Jose** is serving as President this year. She has two children in Paumanok; Ethan is in fifth grade and Lyla is in third. This is her sixth year on the executive committee. Stephanie can be reached at [paumanokpta@gmail.com](mailto:paumanokpta@gmail.com).

**Loan Marsanico** is serving as Recording Secretary this year. She has two children in Paumanok: Daniel in first grade and Anthony in Kindergarten. This is her first year on the Executive Committee. Loan can be reached at [LMars.PTA@gmail.com](mailto:LMars.PTA@gmail.com).



**La Wanda Rice-Chery** is serving as First Vice President of Arts and Education this year. She has two children in Paumanok: Lucas is in fourth grade and Olivia is in first. This is La Wanda's second year on the executive committee. La Wanda can be reached at [Lricechery@gmail.com](mailto:Lricechery@gmail.com).

**Karen Heitmann** is serving as Council Delegate this year. She has two children in Paumanok: Daniel is in third grade and Declan is in first. This is her first year on the executive committee. Karen can be reached at [kmaloney1971@yahoo.com](mailto:kmaloney1971@yahoo.com).



**Aimee Prole** is serving as 2nd VP this year, which includes planning for Paumanok Night Out. She has two children at Paumanok and one at West Hollow: Madison in sixth, Kyle in fourth, and Olivia in Kindergarten. She has chaired fall festival for the last six years, been Historian for three years, and co-chaired PNO for two. This is her second year as 2nd VP. Aimee can be reached at [paumanokpta2vp@gmail.com](mailto:paumanokpta2vp@gmail.com).

**Diane Catalano** is serving as Third Vice President of Fundraising this year. This is her third year on the executive committee, serving previously as corresponding secretary. She has two daughters at Paumanok, Juliana in fourth grade and Lily in second grade. Diane can be reached at [dianept@gmail.com](mailto:dianept@gmail.com).



**Nicole Baldwin** is serving her first year as Treasurer. She served as Recording Secretary for the past two years. Her son, Michael, is entering third grade and her daughter, Ava, will start first grade. Nicole can be reached at [nikibald1@hotmail.com](mailto:nikibald1@hotmail.com).

**Carla Ruiz** is serving as Corresponding Secretary this year, previously serving as Council Delegate. She is the Proud Mom of a Special Needs Teen named Matthew, who attends High School West, Sophie who's in thirds grade and Jonathan, who's in Kindergarten. She can be reached at [councildelegatepaumanokpta@gmail.com](mailto:councildelegatepaumanokpta@gmail.com).

