

## April 2019 Salt Brook PTA Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order and Flag salute.
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Principal's report (attached)
4. Teacher report (attached\_ Mrs. Drewes)
5. Presidents message (Maureen Reilly): Spring fundraiser was a success! Raised about 17K. Thank you to Kerry Fitzgerald for all of her hard work. We need a new chair for next year!
6. Treasurer (Kathy Walsh): \$9900 net flow. Much of it was money to pay for things for Spring Fundraiser. 6<sup>th</sup> grade budget quiet
7. Guest Speaker: Mr Keaney : K-12 STEM.
  - a. Program emphasizes 21<sup>st</sup> century. Webpage shows mission statement
  - b. 9-12 curriculum is in depth to prepare for college, 5-8 rigorous intro courses, model academic requirements, K-4 exposure to real world/problem based learning. More concentrated focus as grades increase.
  - c. Program for elementary schools s 1 Week for 5 hours at a time
    - i. Units are different for each grade but fall under areas of Real world, engineering, learn to code, code to learn, innovation
    - ii. Steps of the process—Scaffolded Assessed Skill—through all units
    - iii. Address science standards for next generation
    - iv. As they are more exposed to coding, they are doing more advanced things at younger ages so the curriculum has had to change to meet new levels of advancement
  - d. Middle School
    - i. 2 courses: robotics/aquabotics and coding/scratch
    - ii. Robot club, work with Robot Revolution in Summit, qualified for a program in DC this year, last year Atlanta
    - iii. Looking for more opportunities
  - e. High School
    - i. Electives include Engineering, architecture/design, healthcare, Research, Computers
    - ii. Reviewing prerequisites for programs to make sure kids are prepared/able to take classes
    - iii. Introducing essentials of engineering class for Freshman as a pre-req instead of math prereq's that were used before
    - iv. STEM club enters different competitions, work with organizations, lecture series, medical exposure
    - v. Project lead the way scholar
8. Guest speaker: Dr. Miceli
  - a. Discussion on full day K:
    - i. Kori read a Facebook discussion that was started by someone else/their concerns; they did a survey on survey monkey to get an idea of interest levels in town. 300 respondents, 231 want full day, split between SB and AWR, mainly incoming 2019-2021 parents. Most paying or will pay for private/wrap program
    - ii. Dr. Miceli response: 10 years ago they reviewed this idea, thought it would be of interest. Raised questions with community, there wasn't a lot of interest. Dr. Miceli was surprised. 5 years ago raised and even less interest. People expressed that they would rather use \$ in budget off other things. Currently, other communities nearby have considered, Summit has a model where people pay into program. BH considering. Some towns have space we don't have for classrooms. They need to evaluate the cost to taxpayers generally vs. to individual parents. We would need another referendum to deal with space issue alone. Question to ask is are we providing full day K because we believe it's academically necessary, or because people want care for their children for more hours? As far as we have assessed, our half day students are very prepared for first grade. Someone raised had and said they heard that 30% of the kids from outside full day are actually behind our kids when they enter first at SB. An assessment is now done of incoming 1st graders as

well as K students to make sure they are placed properly and we have resources lined up for intervention, etc. Our K follows state curriculum. Private may not. Different teacher credentials, sometimes less resources for intervention. We also have reading specialists. If people want to discuss further they should

- iii. come to BOE meetings, participate in strategic planning, reach out to BOE via email: Rob Dinerman heads curriculum committee
- b. Question asked about Hillview and possibility of acquiring it back for our potential increased space needs. Other jointure location is in Warren. All superintendents in districts that are part of system are members of the board. 50 students are in NP location for primary school. Secondary school is in Warren. History: in 1990's enrollment was down. State wanted us to combine with another district. To stay our own entity we sold Lincoln and Hillview. Jointure was originally NP, Summit, Chatham. It was more cost effective to provide services with other towns to help students with Autism in particular. Jointure has decreased in enrollment because some of the districts now provide their own on site programs to incorporate inclusion options. Population is higher in secondary school. "Our House" program for adults leases space and this is where many of the aged out students go after school.
- c. Follow up from Mental health superintendent forum
  - i. Currently, counselors, child study team members, etc have to be pulled from their regular jobs to address a student in crisis. We have created a Crisis intervention counselor for the district to focus on these issues so others can do their "regular" jobs.
  - ii. Have made changes to some internal policies
  - iii. Have discussed curriculum impacts of mental health – looking at options for social/emotional learning.
  - iv. Google: Generation s/ 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolutions—topics to be part of strategic planning
- d. Housing issue
  - i. Have hired a demographer who does NYC census work. Report due in June. Next year when we enter into strategic planning this information will be used. Info will be shared at a BOE meeting. Once we have those numbers we can plan, and determine if anything needs to go to referendum
  - ii. Timing generally: settlement before judge: Borough has 120 days to develop ordinances. Then property owners can decide whether they will sell (ex: Bard, other properties by Mountain Ave). It would take some time for property to be sold, agreements to be made etc. In meantime we can put together plan based off demographer information. Already one of the properties is being looked at by Lantern hill, so that would decrease potential student impact. Probably 3 years before occupancy minimum.

# *Salt Brook*<sup>🐾</sup> PTA

PTA Meeting Agenda  
April 10, 2019  
Salt Brook Cafeteria, 1:30 pm

1. Call to Order and Flag Salute
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Principal's Report
4. Teachers' Representative Report
5. President's Message(Spring Fundraiser Update)
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Guest Speaker - Mr. Keaney, STEM Department Head
8. Guest Speaker - Dr. Miceli, NPSD Superintendent
9. Committee Reports - See Handout.
10. Open Forum

## 2018-2019 Salt Brook PTA Meeting Dates

May 15	Wednesday	PTA Meeting	7:00 pm
June 13	Thursday	Member Luncheon	11:30 am

Join our facebook page: Salt Brook School PTA  
Visit our website: [www.saltbrookpta.com](http://www.saltbrookpta.com)

**PTA MEETING  
APRIL 10, 2019**

**I. INCOMING KINDERGARTEN / FIRST GRADE**

- Incoming Kindergarten regular education enrollment # 47
- Incoming first grade enrollment # 97 (new 5th section added at AWR)

**II. NJSL (formerly PARCC)**

- Infrastructure trial completed with Grade 4. All went well.
- Testing begins for Grades 3 and 4 on April 23rd!

**III. STAFFING**

- The new counselor, Ms. Evans has started.
- Two retirements this year, Mrs. Trimmer, PE and Mrs. O'Connor, Grade 6

**IV. STUDENT BIRTHDAY TREATS**

**V. THANK YOU'S AND UPCOMING EVENTS !**

- Parent Night Out – Thank You!
- Drive for Autism Fundraiser, currently going on.
- Walk to School Days will be starting up again
- Mother/Son Bingo
- Kindergarten Orientation and Screening
- Library Media Bonanza Night has been added to the calendar. It will be held the same night as the Art Show on Tuesday, 5/21

PTA Teacher Rep. Report  
Submitted by Ms. Drewes  
4/2/19

1. Thank you for organizing the PINS Night, the STEM Fair Pizza Party, and Mother Son Bingo for the students. They always enjoy these events!
2. NJSLA Testing (replaces PARCC) will be taking place for grades 3-6 over the coming weeks. Please see that your child gets enough rest, eats a good breakfast, and arrives to school on time. This will help to ensure that your child is relaxed and comfortable during the testing.
3. Thank you so much for continuing to schedule the Walk-to-School Days. It is important to reinforce the positive effects this has at an early age.

### April PTA committee updates

**SIXTH GRADE:** Another successful PINS event was held Friday night. Thank you to all the volunteers! — Sioned Sanders and Joelene Miller

**STEM FAIR PIZZA PARTY:** A pizza party celebration for all participants in this year's STEM Fair took place Tuesday, April 9 during lunch hours. —Diana Ettinger

**MOTHER-SON BINGO-**Mother-Son Bingo will be held on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our theme is Knights (and their Queens), think Medieval Times. 191 attending the 1st session and 192 for the 2nd. We have room for more if people have yet to register. Bingo callers are Mrs. Hamilton and Mr. Pazdera. The front desk will have a cart to accept food donations if parents send snacks in with their children in the morning. Sign up genius being distributed for donations and volunteers. We ARE looking for more 5th grade girls helpers for the evening of.. They do various tasks like replenish snacks, take selfies, help the teacher callers, hand out prizes and cds. 4-5 girls per session would be ideal and they can choose to stay the night or 1 session.

**CELEBRATIONS-** Giving the gift of literature is one that is thoughtful, lasting, and keeps on giving! Please consider making a lasting impact by donating a book in honor of that special person through our biannual Celebrations Book Drive! In placing an order, your donation will go toward the purchase of a new book for the Salt Brook Library. To donate, please visit PTA website. —Rosemarie Silver

**FIELD DAY:** Salt Brook Field Day is May 31st! We are all ready for Field Day!!! Bandana's have arrived and will be given to teachers for their students about a week before Field Day. We will also give the teachers a packet of information they will need to help the day run smoothly.—Amy Reiling

**YEARBOOK:** orders were due last Friday. 468 were sold. The committee has submitted the final edited copy to Jostens. Sign up genius for class photographers for next year available soon. We also need one more person to join our committee. Please talk to Kristina if interested. —Kristina Yadlon, Monica Macauley, Min Gu, Loveena Tayal

**EARTH WEEK:** We are going to hold a contest (make a sculpture or craft using recycled materials). A flyer will be created and sent to Maureen. Projects will be due the week we come back from spring break. On Friday of same week- we will pick winners and give gift cards to top 3. -Erin Skotarczak and Marissa Weidenborner

**TIGER TRACK:** 47 kids signed up for Tiger Track Club. Group goal to run from St. Louis (our fall ending point) to The Grand Canyon. Raised \$500 from local sponsors: Orange Theory Fitness, Bagel Café, Gelormini Auto and The Tee Bag. Great first session conducted Friday 4/5. Using gym now for sign-in & sign-out, warmup and as a backup in case of rain (which saved us last week). We will be running Sharing Network 5K – all parents, siblings, etc. are welcome to join in with Tiger Track Club as we will be supporting the organ donation cause. —Debbie Merrick

**PLASTIC BAG AND WRAP RECYCLING-** Do you have an overflowing bag filled with plastic bags in your house? Do you have lots of bubble wrap from your online orders? Recycle your plastic bags, plastic wrap, and more at Salt Brook's bin (by the front office). If the entire town collects 500lbs of plastic, Trex will make a bench for NPHS.