



Board Members

President: Susan Pastir

Principal: Dr. Sasha Slocum

Treasurer: Joe Cole & Kori Rushton

VPs of Fundraising: Ana Mota & Jeff Petrella

VPs of Programming: Shannyn Johnston & Sonal Agrahari

Corresponding Secretary: Nicole Kobis

Recording Secretary: Nicole Sharkey

William J. McGinn PTA

William J. McGinn Elementary School

1100 Roosevelt Avenue

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Phone: (908) 233-7950

Fax: (908) 233-6766

SusanMcGinnPTA@gmail.com

<https://www.spfk12.org/McGinn>

William J. McGinn PTA

Formal Meeting Minutes: Approved 5/17/24

Tuesday March 12, 2024 at 7:30pm

Establishing a Quorum:

See sign up sheet. **13 members in attendance**

Call to Order/Welcome:

7:35pm

Principal's Report:

Sasha Slocum

"The most difficult thing is to act, the rest is merely tenacity." - [Amelia Earhart](#)

"Music does a lot of things for a lot of people. It's transporting, for sure. It can take you right back, it's uplifting, it's encouraging, it's strengthening." - [Aretha Franklin](#)

Thank You to our Fabulous Families – Thank you for the delicious Valentine's Day Breakfast! We don't know how you do it with families! You are always surprising and pampering us. Thank you to our PTA Executive Board for the phenomenal communication through eblasts and Facebook!

- I. **STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS (2022-2025)**: Teachers continue to provide examples.
 - A. **Goal 1: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion** - (Global Family Night, McGinn Day of Global Cultures, DEI Committee work, Integration of MFCS data into announcements, Diversity Book Challenge, BSU Visit to 3rd and 4th grades)
 - B. **Goal 2: Educating the Whole Child** - (DECA JA Visit to Grades 1-4 on financial literacy, Whole School Meeting, Kindness Week)
 - C. **Goal 3: Community Partnerships and Engagement** - (DECA, 4th Grade Concert,
 - D. **Goal 4: Facilities and Infrastructure** - possibly become prek-5 at the elementary level again.

- II. **UPCOMING PTA AND SCHOOL EVENTS AND CURRICULA:**
 - A. [Women's History Month](#)
 - B. [Music in our Schools Month](#)





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- C. [Future Ready SPF Website and School Motto](#) - We are working on mottos and mission statements to share with the community.
- D. [McGinn Citizen Character Traits Recognition](#) - This will be launched next week after a schoolwide meeting.
- E. [NJSLA](#) - We will have state testing in May as in the past for 3rd and 4th grades. ELA will be May 7th and 8th. MATH will be May 14th, 15th and 16th.
- F. [Report Cards](#) – Second Trimester ends March 13th. March 20th, report cards available in Powerschool.
- G. [BOE Meeting](#) - March 21st
- H. [Terrill Jazz Band](#) – The band will visit our 3rd and 4th graders on Friday, May 15th.
- I. [Gardens Meeting](#) - We met today to discuss spring plantings. We will have a clean up day on April 12th, rainedate April 19th, and we will have a sign up for silling soil cups and planting with students. All volunteers are welcome!
- J. [Take Your Child To Work Day](#) - April 25th
- K. [Career Day](#) - April 26th - We will invite families to share their life experiences very soon!
- L. [Kindergarten Orientation](#) - May 29th - This may change depending on snow days. We already have 70+ kindergarteners for the new school year! **9:30-10:15**
- M. [Celebration of Learning](#) - June 18th

III. WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT MCGINN

- A. [NAEP](#) - went well
- B. [EEF Harlem Wizards](#)
- C. [4th Grade visited Terrill](#)
- D. [Barcelona Students](#) - High School Students from Barcelona visited two Spanish classes.
- A. [McGinn Day of Global Cultures](#) - What wonderful day! We had 30 presenters and over 100 presentations to our students. We are so grateful for the diversity of our community and that our families and staff share their cultures with our students.
- B. [McGinn Gardens](#) -.Our garden committee has met and developed great plans to have students plant right into the gardens.
- C. [Junior Achievement Heroes](#) - The visit of the high school students was fantastic, and our students learned so much.
- D. [Read Across America](#) – Teachers and grade levels shared many reading activities with our students, and families made it extra special. We had a schoolwide silent read.
- E. [Family Wellness Night](#) - What fun! Thanks for coming out!
- F. [BINGO Night](#) – Everyone loved BINGO Night!
- G. [The Souper Bowl](#) – The results matched the actual outcome, and hundreds of cans supported our NJ Community through Starfish in Plainfield.
- H. [Fourth Grade Concert](#) – The concert was at McGinn and was a beautiful winter experience.





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- A. Valentine's Parties – Our Room Parents led colorful, creative and fun parties, thank you!
- B. Kindness Week - Thank you to Mrs. Ward, Ms. Ness and our school community for warming our hearts with kindness card hunts and many kind activities! Thank you to families for donating books, which went to Emerson School students in Plainfield for Read Across America Week.
- C. Super Science Saturday – Many students shared wonderful projects and enjoyed the Mad Science presentation.
- D. Student Council – Students are convening twice per month and are focused on equalizing the sports equipment for classes at recess.
- E. Lego and Coding Clubs - Thank you to our PTA and parents for leading SO MANY Lego building and coding opportunities for our students with real-world applications and lots of family support!
- F. Sharing Lunches and Food Drives - Thank you, McGinn PTA, for teaching our students about the importance of service!

IV. UPCOMING DATES

- A. Early Morning Band Begins - 3/13/24 for 4th grade Band @ 8:15 AM
- B. Grade 4 Incoming 5th Grade Parent Orientation at Terrill - 3/13 @ 6:30 PM
- C. Terrill Jazz Band visits McGinn for Music in Our Schools Month - 3/15/24
- D. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Meeting - 3/15/24 @ 2:30 PM
- E. PTA Parent Social - 3/16/24
- F. 3/13/24 - **End of 2nd Trimester** - Grades due in Powerschool; 3/18/24; Grades viewable by Families in Powerschool 3/20/24
- G. PTA Food Drive - 3/18 - 3/21/24
- H. Student Council - 3/18/24 @ 11:45
- I. SPFEA Family Literacy Night - @ 5:00 - 7:00 PM
- J. BOE Meeting - 3/21/24
- K. Spring Break - 3/25 - 3/29/24 - No School
- L. Holi begins 3/25/24
- M. Variety Show - 4/5/24 @ SPFHS, 5:00 PM
- N. Eid Al-Fitr - 4/10/24 Schools Closed
- O. Think Purple Week - 4/15 - 4/19/24
- P. District Instrumental Concert - 4/24/24 @ SPFHS, 7:00 PM
- Q. Take Your Child to Work Day - 4/25/24
- R. McGinn Career Day - 4/26/24
- S. McGinn Gallery Evening - 5/16/24 @6:30-7:30pm; PTA meeting to follow at 7:30
- T. Kindergarten Orientation - 5/29/24





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Old Business:

Programming (Reported on by Sonal Agrahari/Shannyn Johnston):

- January Food Drive, Thank you Erin Decker and Karen Sullivan for organizing.
- Bingo Night, Thank you to Mike Rushton for being our Emcee. This ran more smoothly than last year: less tears! Thank you Nicole Manna and Amy Condon for chairing. **Looking for new chairs.**
- Global Family Night, a success! An awesome interactive dance performed by the Flamenco dancers. Thank you Ms. Fuerst and our chairs Pavlina Perry and Ally Casanova.
- Wellness Night II, Glow party hosted by Mrs. Fritz. Ms. Filipski was also in attendance. Approximately 100 families showed up.
- February Sharing Lunches ~300 lunches
- Valentine Parties, Room Parents; *Nicole Kobis* **Lots of Teachers got leftover \$ as gift cards for the classroom. Teachers liked not having food at party.**
- Valentine's Day Staff Breakfast, Thank you Lauren Murphy, Nicole Griffin, and Pooja Rastogi
- Thank you to Staff for the PTA Thank You Breakfast. Thank you for spoiling US!!
- Super Science Saturday: **SSS was held on Saturday, 2nd and was a huge success. This event was chaired by Allison Sanchez and Lauren Murphy. Almost 100 students showed up.**
- PTA Reflections, a lunch time party ~~will be held on 3/20 for all the participants.~~ Way to go, everyone! **We are rescheduling this for 4/11.**

Fundraising (Reported on by Ana Mota/Jeff Petrella):

- Lego Club; Coding Classes: 2 more weeks left of classes. Next year we need to assign a chair. Nicole Sharkey has been performing the chair duties this year. This was underperforming as fundraiser. BUT, this is the first time we are having it as a fundraiser and also paying teachers to host it. We brought in enough money to cover the cost of paying the teachers and then some.





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- Family Skate Night: we had 176 Skaters sign up for the event with a profit of \$1652. This is \$1152 over our projection. **We are scheduling a 2nd night in Union on April 12th, if there is enough interest.**
- March Pretzels: we had 54 pretzels sold in March and 86 pretzel combinations for March/April/May/ June sales. Total profit will be shared at a later date.

Membership (Nicole Sharkey):

We are officially at 325 members, which is 2 more than January's meeting.

New Business:

Programming (Susan Pastir):

Programming:

- March Food Drive
 - Karen Sullivan and Erin Decker will be collecting food from the McGinn community to donate to the IHM food pantry. Katie Smith has coordinated fourth grade volunteers to help create posters promoting the event.
- Think Purple Week
 - The chairs, Pooja Rastogi, Marcy Cohen and Geri Feraro, have had their first meeting. The week will be held from April 15th-19th this year. We are waiting on further details from the district. All assemblies will be run by the school district instead of the PTA this year. We decorate a bulletin board and tie ribbons on trees. **The HS students will present to the 4th graders and then the 4th graders will teach the younger grades.**
- Spring Assembly
 - Nicole Castellano has begun looking into assemblies for the spring. The first one she is investigating is called Music of the Earth - a celebration of world cultures. We need to look at possible dates.
- April Sharing Lunches
 - Sara Taner continues to run this successful community outreach program in coordination with the fourth grade. The next collection will take place on 4/17.
- Wellness Night III: Yoga with Ms. Marchica
 - Ms. Marchica has volunteered to lead an evening of yoga and mindfulness for our McGinn families on Tuesday, April 30th.
- 4th Grade Update
 - Shirts were delivered in time for the fourth grade concert.
 - Signs have been ordered.
 - Picnic is being planned.
 - Yearbook is being worked on.
 - **Trailside attempt. We have buses for the day, but Trailside was not available.**





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- District fourth grade Somerset Patriots game is planned for Saturday, June 8th.

Fundraising (Susan Pastir):

- Parent Social
 - The Parent Social will be held this Saturday, March 16th at Shackamaxon Country Club from 6:30-10:30 pm. There will be an outside DJ/Trivia company, Hollyrock Entertainment, providing entertainment for the night. There will also be dinner, drinks, dancing, tricky tray and silent auction prizes and a 50/50 drawing at the end of the night.
 - **Add Thank You to Shackamaxon on our sponsor list.**
 - **Nina recommends starting to get sponsors in November and adding more value for donators.**
 - **Kindergarten teachers are adding another silent auction item:5 winners to “come back to kindergarten.”**
- Variety Show: Tickets, Playbill, Snacks, Photos, Candy Grams
 - Tickets are open to directors this Thursday for \$12.50 with a limit of three per family.
 - Tickets go on sale for all families this Sunday, March 17th.
 - Playbill ads are due this Friday.
 - Parents will be able to pre-order snacks, group photos and candy grams.
 - Mike Rushton will be our videographer this year.
 - **4th graders will get a separate room to wait in.**
- Hershey Park
 - Deadline to Order is this Sunday, March 17th. We are currently at a third of our sales as last year. (60/180)
- Kids Kreations
 - Stacy Amador has collected all students' artwork and will be sending it to Kids Kreations so student artwork can be uploaded onto their site for ordering. Thank you to Ms. Cavaliere and Teacher G for their help in making this program happen.
- Spring Apparel
 - Naomi DelMastro submitted proposed apparel items for our spring sale last week. There are two items I suggested we discuss/delete and then it will be forwarded on for approval.
- Spring Plant Sale
 - We are using Lynwyck farms again with a delivery date secured for Thursday 5/9 at approximately 1:30pm.
 - In School Sale Date: Friday 5/10
 - Kids Plant Sale Teacher Sign Up is created, but needs to be approved.

Looking Ahead:





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(Susan): We need to be on top of getting icepops earlier for field day so they have a greater chance of freezing enough.

We reviewed the dates for the NomCom to get us the slate for next year: May 10th announcement (via eblast?) and officially presented to the community at May 16th meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Joe Cole/Kori Rushton:

(see attached handout)

Although there is some movement yet to happen as checks go through, we currently have 43K in the bank.

Unfinished Business, Questions, Comments,

Announcements:

Susan: Final comments and opens the floor.

Adjournment:

Susan, "Can I have a motion to adjourn the meeting?"

First: Nicole Kobis

Second: Kori Rushton

Susan: Meeting is adjourned at 8:26

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole Sharkey

Recording Secretary





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	BUDGET	Actual	Actual		Completed Fundraisers	Completed Fundraisers		
	2023-2024	Income	Expense	Profit	Overperformed	Underperformed	Notes	
FUNDRAISING								
							BANK 11/16/2	\$35,889.82
							PayPal 11/16/2	791.36
Fall Book Fair	\$2,800	\$6,592.70	-\$2,541.87	\$4,050.83	1250.83	0	BANK 1/11/24	35,018.41
Spring Book Fair	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	PayPal 1/11/2	86.24
Box Tops	\$150	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	0	75	BANK 2/20/24	29,061.26
Breakfast with Flame	\$1,800	\$3,456.00	-\$1,545.62	\$1,910.38	110.35	0	PayPal	1,673.02
Color Run	\$2,800	\$10,151.00	-\$3,595.96	\$6,555.04	3755.04	0	BANK 3/12/24	53,483.26
Kids Kreations	\$1,650				0	0	PayPal	0
Membership Dues	\$1,600	\$3,230.00	-\$1,292.00	\$1,938.00	338	0		
Membership Donations	\$400	\$520.00	\$0.00	\$520.00	120	0		
Parent Social	\$3,000	\$24,250.00	-\$5,580.00	\$18,670.00	15670	0		
Pie Sale	\$500	\$4,564.50	-\$3,921.50	\$643.00	143	0		
Fall Plant Sale	\$600	\$2,984.00	-\$2,027.50	\$956.50	356.5	0		
Spring Plant Sale	\$500				0	0		
Monthly Pretzel Sales	\$1,200	\$1,814.00	-\$385.26	\$1,428.74	228.74	0		
Hershey Park Purchase Programs	\$1,000.00	\$3,197.00	\$0.00	\$3,197.00	2197	0		
Miscellaneous Fundraising: Magnets, Blankets, Ki	\$100.00	\$988.00	-\$450.00	\$538.00	438	0		
School Pictures	\$2,500	\$2,746.00		\$2,746.00	246	0		
Fall Apparel Sale	\$500.00	\$562.00		\$562.00	62	0		
Winter Apparel Sale	\$200.00	\$304.00			104	200		
Spring Apparel Sale	\$500.00	\$582.00			82	0		
Skate Night	\$500	\$3,018.00	-\$2,088.00	\$930.00	430	0		
Variety Show	\$7,500				0	0		
Enrichments (Lego Club and Coding Classes)	\$3,800	\$3,595.00	-\$2,400.00	\$1,195.00		2605		
					0	0		
					0	0		
FUNDRAISING TOTALS	\$33,600	\$72,629.20	-\$25,827.71	\$45,915.49	25531.46	2880		
ADMINISTRATION								
Audit/Tax & State Filings/Software/Directory	-\$200		-\$100.00	-\$100.00				
Bank Service Charges	-\$50.00		-\$99.00	-\$99.00				
Constant Contact (e-blasts)	-\$378.00			\$0.00				
MobileArq (family directory / online store)	-\$700.00		-\$700.00	-\$700.00				
Copying Charges	-\$50.00			\$0.00				
County PTA Dues	-\$50.00			\$0.00				
District PTA Dues	-\$135.00			\$0.00				
Insurance	-\$375.00			\$0.00				
PayPal & Amazon Business Prime	-\$2,600.00		-\$1,826.70	-\$1,826.70				
Postage & Supplies	-\$50.00			\$0.00				
President's Discretionary Fund	-\$750.00		\$223.96	\$223.96				
ADMINISTRATION TOTALS	-\$5,338		-\$2,501.74	-\$2,501.74				
PROGRAMMING/SERVICES								
Assignment Pads & Folders	-\$2,000.00			\$0.00				
Author Visit	-\$2,500.00		-\$3,473.00	-\$3,473.00				
Bingo Night	-\$50.00			\$0.00				
Cultural Arts (Assemblies, In-School Field Trips)	-\$4,000.00		-\$1,346.02	-\$1,346.02				
SPF PTA Council Expenses	-\$950.00		-\$900.00	-\$900.00				
Field Day	-\$150.00			\$0.00				
Fourth Grade Activities	-\$2,000.00		-\$535.00	-\$535.00				
Garden/Beautification	-\$500.00			\$0.00				
Global Family Night	-\$1,500.00		-\$495.00	-\$495.00				
Hospitality: Back to School	-\$100.00		-\$199.00	-\$199.00				
Hospitality: Welcome Back Staff Lunch	-\$500.00		-\$111.63	-\$111.63				





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Hospitality: Kindergarten Picnic	\$0.00			\$0.00			
Hospitality: Scavenger Hunt	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00			
Hospitality: Staff Appreciation Week	-\$800.00		-\$815.56	-\$815.56			
Hospitality: Valentine's Staff Breakfast	-\$232.00			\$0.00			
Nurse	-\$100.00			\$0.00			
Party on the Blacktop Movie Night	-\$1,780.00	\$123.00	-\$1,264.50	-\$1,141.50			
Sharing Lunches	-\$250.00		-\$178.85				
SPFHS Scholarship	-\$4,000.00			\$0.00			
School & Classroom Gifts (hospitality misc exp)	-\$1,000.00		-\$199.00	-199.00			
Student Council	-\$400.00			\$0.00			
Student Subscriptions(Scholastic/Time for Kids)	-\$4,300.00			\$0.00			
Super Science Saturday	-\$800.00		-\$492.00		\$308.00		
Teacher Amazon Wish List	\$0.00			\$0.00			
Think Purple Week	-\$350.00			\$0.00			
Week of Respect	\$0.00			\$0.00			
PROGRAMMING/SERVICES TOTAL	-\$28,262		-\$10,009.56	-\$9,215.71			
EXPENSE TOTAL	-\$33,600						
GRAND TOTALS	\$0		-\$38,339.01	-\$38,339.01			
Last Year Roll over (2022)		\$10,922.13	-\$8,640.00	\$2,282.13			
PNC as of 06/30/2023							
PNC O/S Checks							
QB Balance							
Current Year Rollover		\$26,558.74					
Cash in hand							
Plus Expected Income		\$0.00					
Total Income		\$0.00					
Less Expected Expense							
Net available		\$0.00					
Amount to rollover		\$0.00					

