



### **Board Members**

**President:** Susan Pastir

**Principal:** Dr. Sasha Slocum

**Treasurer:** Rosalina Walter

**VPs of Fundraising:** Dara Eisenstein & Ana Mota

**VPs of Programming:** Shannyn Johnston & Sonal Agrahari

**Corresponding Secretary:** Karen Sullivan Chen

**Recording Secretary:** Nicole Sharkey

**McGinn Staff Representatives:** Amy George & TBD

### **McGinn PTA**

William J. McGinn Elementary School

1100 Roosevelt Avenue

Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

Phone: (908) 233-7950

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

## **McGinn PTA**

### **General Membership Meeting Minutes: **APPROVED****

**Wednesday June 14, 2023 at 9:00am**

### **Establishing a Quorum:**

See sign up sheet. **19 members**

### **Call to Order/Welcome:**

Time: **9:06am**

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Susan: "Can I have a motion to approve the minutes from May 16th's meeting?"

1st: Karen Sullivan

2nd: Janelle Timbie

Susan: "The Minutes are approved."

### **Principal's Report:**

#### **THANK YOU**

- McGinn PTA, Families and McGinn Staff for Kindergarten Orientation, Field Day, Fourth Grade Picnic, Fourth Grade Committee, BOGO Book Fair, Book Fair Wishlists
- Teachers - 3rd Grade Band Demo, Kindergarten Day, First Grade Countdown
- Thank you for providing numerous ways to make us feel appreciated and celebrated!
- Thank you to our outgoing Executive Board: Ms. Pastir, Ms. Agrahari, Ms. Eisenstein, Ms. Johnston, Ms. Mota, Ms. Sharkey, Ms. Sullivan-Chen, and Ms. Walter
- Thank you to our incoming Executive Board: Ms. Pastir, Ms. Agrahari, Mr. Petrella, Ms. Johnston, Ms. Mota, Ms. Sharkey, Ms. Kobis, and Mr. Cole

**CHANGES** Ms. Schmidt will move to second grade to accommodate our 6 sections!

#### **STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS FOR THIS YEAR:**

- **Goal 1: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion** - To increase opportunities to develop a district committed to diversity, equity and inclusion through hiring practices of educational and support staff, curriculum development and student empowerment.





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- **Goal 2: Educating the Whole Child** - To engage students academically, socially and emotionally to be resilient, creative, critical thinkers through authentic learning experiences, so that they feel validated, self-aware and interconnected and can approach the world's challenges with empathy and passion.
- **Goal 3: Community Partnerships and Engagement** - To create a communication system that utilizes various appropriate channels so all stakeholders receive information that is timely, concise, clear and balanced and utilizing these channels to cultivate and continue awareness of existing and future community partnerships that will enhance the student experience and the larger district.
- **Goal 4: Facilities and Infrastructure** - To improve and expand facilities so that we can provide safe, accessible and innovative modern spaces for all students that are sustainable ("green")

### **SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS**

- **PRIDE Month and National Caribbean American Heritage Month** - We have focused on being proud of who we are and for what we believe.
- **Juneteenth** - All of our elementary students are participating in Juneteenth lessons. Our 3rd and 4th graders are making class quilt pieces to be connected in one district Juneteenth quilt.
- **McGinn Family Culture Survey** - Once again, this has been the source of fantastic information about our families. We have shared information with the whole school community through announcements and communications.

### **CURRICULUM**

- **MAP Testing** - Students in grades 1-4 took the MAP test in Language Arts and Math. Families will receive the results this summer.
- **End of Year Assessments** - Students are completing our reading, writing and word study end of year assessments.
- **Juneteenth Lessons** - Students' quilt pieces will be on display on Saturday at Shady Rest Country Club

### **TECHNOLOGY**

- **Families may keep the devices over the summer.**
- We continue to use Second Step to support our socio-emotional learning curriculum.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **Recorder Concert** - Third grade families, 6/15 at 9:00
- **Authors' Tea** - Second Grade families, 6/15 at different times
- **Ball in the House Assembly** - Grades 3-4 at 9:00; Grades K-2 at 10:00 on 6/16/23
- **Celebration of Learning** - Families will join us on June 20th in the MPR with a reception following in the Gym.
- **Clap Out** - Join us at 12:15 PM on 6/21/23

### **MISCELLANEOUS**





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- **Class Placements** - We have six sections of Grades K and 2, 5 sections of Grades 1 and 4, 4 sections of Grade 3. Placements will go out in late August.
- **Student Council** – They would like to thank you for your generous donation to purchase soccer nets
- **Book Club Books** - Thank you for supporting our book clubs at every level with updated, multiple copies of books for grade levels
- **Juneteenth Celebration** - June 17th at Shady Rest Country Club, 12 - 7
- **Spring Concert** was fantastic last night!
- **Career Day**/Take Your Child to Work Day - Families participated in record numbers this year!

**We are hiring an additional K teacher.**

## **Old Business:**

**Susan:**

We were so grateful to be able to bring back many of McGinn's traditions this year such as Breakfast with Flame, the Parent Social and the Variety Show. We are pleased to report that we exceeded our fundraising goals and will be able to provide additional resources and gifts to the school as a result. As a PTA our primary goal is ensuring the money we fundraise goes towards the enhancement of the education and wellbeing of our students. Some of the things we've been able to provide as a result of our efforts are the following:

- High School Scholarships – McGinn's Mariana Cassidy Scholarship was awarded to two McGinn alumni, each in the amount of \$1,500. The Senior Awards Night was held on May 31st and the recipients of the scholarships were Meredith Kenoff and Owen Higinbotham. Meredith will be attending the University of Texas, Austin as a neuroscience major and Owen will be attending Lehigh University and is currently undecided. These students were chosen by demonstrating academic excellence and a commitment to community service, as embodied by Mariana Cassidy during her twelve years of service to McGinn school as its principal.

**We are looking to raise the scholarship amounts to \$2,000 each for 2023-2024.**





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- We were pleased to be able to provide \$4,638 to cover the cost of the datebooks for incoming 4th graders for next year, Scholastic magazines for all of the classrooms, and a subscription to Time for Kids for the classrooms.
- We provided soil, plants and watering cans for McGinn's community garden and new butterfly garden.
- We were able to provide two spring assemblies for students by increasing our cultural arts budget.
- Our recent Scholastic Book Fair has earned \$1,000 in Scholastic Dollars for Mr. Lohn to use in the future to purchase books and materials for the Media Center.
- We provided all staff members who submitted recipes to the PTA with a copy of our McGinn Community Cookbook.
- We have an additional \$10,000 left over to use towards school projects and goals. At this point in time we have discussed using some of the funds to purchase multiple copies of novels for classrooms and to possibly purchase picnic tables. We are open to discussing other possibilities and will have a better idea of the exact costs of these items over the summer.

This has been a challenging and rewarding year. We worked diligently to rebuild many of the programs and traditions that had been lost over the past few years due to the pandemic. There was much to learn and I am so grateful to have had experienced and knowledgeable PTA leaders by my side in Dara, Karen and Rosalina. I know bringing back all of our past programs was not easy and your dedication to making these dreams a reality is appreciated beyond measure.

Shannyn, Sonal and Ana, thank you for all of your work in planning and organizing our programs while simultaneously learning what goes into making each and every event a success. Nicole, I don't know what we would do without your engaging Facebook posts, MobileArq knowledge or positive spirit. I truly appreciate each and





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every one of you and you have inspired many parents to become active PTA volunteers as well. We are so lucky to have you continuing on in your roles!

Dr. Slocum, thank you for your support and guidance this year. We wouldn't have been able to bring all of these amazing programs and experiences to our children without your knowledge, encouragement and expertise.

Today we welcome Nicole, Jeff and Joe to our team. We know you will all make outstanding additions to the PTA and we are grateful for all of the skills you bring to the table and for your enthusiasm in supporting the students of McGinn School. I am looking forward to a great year ahead!

### **New Business:**

**Susan:**

#### **Nominee Presentation**

We will now be presenting the new officers who will take their term as of July 1, 2023. The following are the nominees for the open board positions for the 2023-2025 school years:

(Read by Rosalina)

**Treasurer, for a term of 2 years: Joe Cole**

*Joseph Cole, has been a McGinn Parent for the past 5 years. He has a son & daughter at McGinn, and another coming in 2024. Joseph's undergraduate degree is from Stockton University, with a major in Accounting. And his MBA is from Pace University with a major in Financial Management. He also has a Certificate in Financial Planning from FDU. Joseph is an active CPA. Joseph has been a volunteer at the Union Chinese School & the Boy Scouts Pack 277 in various roles over the years. Joseph is very excited to help*





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*the PTA in the coming year; and looks forward to working with everyone to continue to help the kids.*

(Read by Nicole)

### **Vice President of Fundraising, for a term of 2 years: Jeff Petrella**

*Jeff has been a McGinn parent for one year. His son (Joey) is entering 1st grade and his daughter will be entering kindergarten in the 2024-2025 school year. His daughter Maddy cannot wait to be at the same school as her brother! Jeff has a Bachelors in Accounting & Finance, Master's in Accounting, and an MBA in Finance w/ a concentration in Supply Chain all from Syracuse University. Jeff also has Big 4 public accounting experience primarily focused in the Pharmaceutical Industry. He applied that knowledge while working at two of the largest global Big Pharma companies with a focus on inventory supply chain. Jeff currently works in Real Estate with one the largest teams in NJ to help make dreams come true. Jeff enjoys being a room parent and assisting with making the most enjoyable experience possible for the kids. Jeff's extensive work experience has set him up to succeed in the amazing footsteps Dara has planted. Jeff cannot wait to get started on this year's McGinn events.*

(Read by Karen)

### **Corresponding Secretary, for a term of 2 years: Nicole Kobis**

*Nicole Kobis is finishing up her first year as a McGinn parent. She has a daughter who will enter 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in the fall and is finishing up her year in Ms. Riff's 1st grade class. During this school year, she volunteered as a class parent, co-chaired the Valentine's Day fundraiser, and volunteered at other PTA sponsored events. She works locally as an attorney in Westfield and has held volunteer positions at the JCC. She is excited to take on the role of Corresponding Secretary and to continue to support and be involved in the incredible McGinn family.*







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We will now ask for a membership vote that the PTA Executive Board positions be filled with Joseph Cole, Nicole Kobis and Jeffrey Petrella for 2-year terms.

All those in favor say or type "yes"

Is anyone opposed? (No)

### **Installation Ceremony**

Joe, Jeff, and Nicole... Please respond with *I WILL* after each question.

Will you, as an officer of the William J. McGinn Parent Teacher Association hold the welfare of our children and youth paramount in all you do? "I will."

Will you represent the William J. McGinn PTA, the New Jersey PTA and the National PTA so that the dignity and worth of parent-teacher work may be upheld before the community to the honor of those who have elected you? "I will."

Thank you! Congratulations to our new officers!

## **Unfinished Business, Questions, Comments,**

### **Announcements:**

Susan: Are there any comments or questions, or is there any further business to discuss?

Rosalina recalls being jealous of outgoing members last year. But don't worry, PTA is memorable and rewarding.

### **Adjournment:**

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

First: Nicole Sharkey

Second: Janelle Timbie

Susan: Meeting is adjourned at 9:29am.



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[SusanMcGinnPTA@gmail.com](mailto:SusanMcGinnPTA@gmail.com)<https://www.spfk12.org/McGinn>**Respectfully Submitted,****Nicole Sharkey****Recording Secretary****2023-06-14 08\_51 PTA Meeting - Attendance Report**

First name	Last name	Email	Duration	Time joined	Time exited
Joseph	Cole	joc*****@***.com	10 min	9:00 AM	9:09 AM
Dara	Eisenstein	dara*****@***.com	18 min	9:00 AM	9:19 AM
Trish	Fairweather Cody	fair*****@***.com	22 min	9:06 AM	9:29 AM
Dan	Fonder	dfon***@***.com	21 min	9:03 AM	9:24 AM
Lauren	Murphy	laur*****@***.com	27 min	9:00 AM	9:27 AM
Pavlina	Perry	pavl*****@***.com	6 min	9:18 AM	9:24 AM
McGinn	Programming	prog*****@***.com	15 min	8:58 AM	9:13 AM
Sasha	Slocum	sslocum@spfk12.org	32 min	8:57 AM	9:29 AM







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**McGinn PTA**  
**Meeting Sign In**  
June 14, 2023 at 9:00am

*\*see other remote attendees on back*

	Name	Signature	Current PTA Member?
1	Elayne Edmonds		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Nicole Sharkey		<input type="checkbox"/>
3	NICOLE KOBIS		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Karen Chen (Sullivan)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Susan Pastir		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Sonal Agrahari		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Meaghan Eschbach		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8	Jeff Petrelli		<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Dr. Slocum		<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Rosalina Walter		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Janelle Timbie		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	Joe Cole		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13	Trisha Cody		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	John Lohn		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15	Pavlina Perry		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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**Outgoing Treasurer 2021-2023:**

6/14/23

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Rosalina Walter

**Incoming Treasurer 2023-2025:**

6/14/23

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Joseph Cole

**\*\*The bank took our only signed copy.**





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### Approval Form

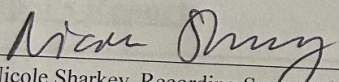
**Meeting Type:**

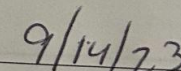
June General Membership Meeting

**Meeting Date:**

6/14/2023

The minutes for this meeting were approved by the Executive Board on September 14, 2023.

  
(Signed, Nicole Sharkey, Recording Secretary)

  
(Date)

