



## George Washington PTA

3634 Lexington Avenue  
Mohegan Lake, New York 10547  
Tel: 914-528-2021 • Fax: 914-528-2134

## Officers

Allison Bruno – Co-President  
Loren Williams – Co-President  
Jessica Lynch – Vice President  
Venecia Segura-Dobles - Treasurer  
Jenna Korn– Recording Secretary  
Christine Goh– Corresponding Secretary

### George Washington Elementary School PTA Meeting Minutes September 21, 2020 - 7:00pm Zoom Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance  
Call to Order

Loren Williams, PTA Co-President addressed the virtual group. She thanked all teachers, administrators, staff, and parents for everything they have done over the last several months.

#### OFFICER'S REPORTS

- Introduction of all Board Members

The PTA Board members introduced themselves. The PTA Board is made up of the following leadership: Allison Bruno, Co-President; Loren Williams, Co-President; Jessica Lynch, Vice President; Jenna Korn, Recording Secretary; and Christine Goh, Corresponding Secretary.

- PTA Email Communications

The PTA Board discussed future communications would all be paperless. Parents should expect emails for any upcoming events or notices. The Facebook page is also a good resource for up to date information from the PTA.

- PTA Facebook Page link is:
  - <https://www.facebook.com/George-Washington-PTA-381924025296318>

- PTA Membership

The PTA Board discussed PTA Membership and how a parent/guardian/teacher/staff member can become a PTA member through the online registration process. The PTA membership page can be accessed by clicking the following link:

- <http://nyspta.freesidesystems.net/> **Unit Code 18-363**

- 2020-2021 Picture Day

The PTA Board discussed how picture days would look different this year. Picture Day can take place, but it will take place on two consecutive days to allow for both Cohort A, B, and remote learners to participate. No class photos will be taken this year. All photo days will have to be outdoors. The PTA is working with GW Administration to facilitate picture day in a safe and socially distant way. Picture Day dates are still to be determined.

- Yearbook 2019-2020

Yearbooks from 2019-2020 pick-ups- must be picked up from last year. Yearbooks are also still available for purchase. Contact Allison Bruno at [allisonbruno22@gmail.com](mailto:allisonbruno22@gmail.com)

- Square 1 Art 2019-2020

Square One Art orders from 2019-2020 are still available and can be picked up at Allison's house. Contact Allison Bruno at [allisonbruno22@gmail.com](mailto:allisonbruno22@gmail.com)

- School of Excellence

The PTA is still working on this as COVID-19 put the program on pause. The PTA Board are working together to complete the last remaining steps. Surveys may be part of this process. Parents can assist by completing any PTA surveys that are distributed.

- School lunch account- If you are new to GW please set up your child's school lunch account by following the link for more information:
  - <https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/getmain?requestAction=home>



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- Virtual Event Ideas- The PTA Board is looking for input from families to come up with virtual event ideas to provide our students with great opportunities. If you have ideas for virtual events, please email Allison or Loren.
  - [allisonbruno22@gmail.com](mailto:allisonbruno22@gmail.com) or [loren.williams00@gmail.com](mailto:loren.williams00@gmail.com)

- Treasurer Report

As of August 31<sup>st</sup> – The PTA account has \$19,340.80 with outstanding liability from the 2019 yearbook. Two outstanding checks include a legacy check and 5<sup>th</sup> grade bowling. The PTA is trying to figure out at what point can we have this event safely. The ending balance as of 9/1/2020 is **\$16,832.85**

- Corresponding Secretary

Thank you to all the GW staff. Everyone is working tirelessly. The night before teachers went back to school, the community wrote positive notes all over GW, including the entrance way. The PTA also provided a goodie table for teachers to show our appreciation. *Thank you for everything you do, especially now.*

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dr. Norman, Principal and Ms. Thames, Vice Principal, provided the principals report. They began by thanking the community for the decorations, beautification efforts and goodie table for teachers.

- Dr. Norman welcomed new staff to the district. Dr. Norman welcomed our new Superintendent, Dr. Lyons to the District. He also announced several in-house changes including monitor resignations and teacher shifts. Mrs. Noble has moved from the 4<sup>th</sup> grade and is now teaching 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Ms. Straut is no longer a Coach and is now teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

#### School Updates:

- The new lights are up in the parking lot and very functional
- Two dead trees were removed in the front of the school
- New blacktop out back gives more flexibility with parking and a dedicated space for our children to play as the back-parking lot has been converted to a full parking lot to be used all day.
- New air conditioners were installed in some of the classrooms and offices
- Families need to update personal information on file with school. As we bring children back, we are going to need to get in contact with an adult right away.
  - Parents MUST make sure the information is up to date.
- There will be a new code system for picking up your child. Parents should have received this information to set up their pin. If you did not receive it, please call the office.
- Dr. Norman wants the public to anticipate that the first few days of drop-off and pick-up may not be ideal, but we are working out the kinks. Please be patient.
- Paper tracking is now the way the school will track student's health- regarding symptoms, etc. All students entering the school on their designated Hybrid A or B day, will need to hand in a blue paper signed by their parent. If a child forgets their paper they will be brought to the APR and their parent/guardian will be called to confirm their health status.

#### Transportation Information:

- Dr. Norman and Ms. Thames worked with transportation so that when hybrid begins- *buses will be dropping off and picking up from the rear parking lot.*
- Parent drop offs and pick-ups in the front
  - This new strategy will minimize traffic on Lexington



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- Staff will bring children out of cars and walk into the entrance at drop-off  
Maps were displayed during the meeting to accurately describe the new traffic flow.

#### Video Conferencing Guidelines:

- Parents were provided a google classroom etiquette list for K-2 and 3-5. Parents were asked to support their child to be on time, be muted, ready to learn, no recording or taking pics, appropriate clothes must be worn, video on, and parents can be near, but never on camera, and NEVER communicating with the teacher disrupting class. If a parent disrupts a teacher during class, the teacher will end the Google Meet for the entire class.

\*Starting this week- if confrontations with family occur, teachers will be advised to shut the meeting immediately. Contact administration if this is a concern and it will be addressed:

[TNORMAN@LAKELANDSCHOOLS.ORG](mailto:TNORMAN@LAKELANDSCHOOLS.ORG)

#### Visitor Policy:

- No visitors are allowed in the school. No one outside of Lakeland, no parents, no storytellers. Only students, administration, teachers, and teacher interns are allowed.

As the meeting was conducted on a Zoom platform, there were questions in the chat. The questions were read to Dr. Norman and he answered as follows:

#### Question/Answer

Q: Do students have to bring in all supplies from their list?

A: Yes, they should and plan to use them, list is evolving, teachers will provide more info

Q: Is there a way to confirm personal emergency contacts?

A: Secretary emails provided: [cbogardus@lakelandschools.org](mailto:cbogardus@lakelandschools.org) or [alantino@lakelandschools.org](mailto:alantino@lakelandschools.org)

Q: Will there be class parents?

A: Will be discussed with teachers and PTA. See what we can do in the virtual forum. Must adjust to new model first.

Q: Are students' temperatures being taken at school?

A: No, it is solely on the parents. If the blue form is not completed, then the school would have to take temps and complete form on behalf of the parent after calling the parent. Make sure to update home access with your up to date phone numbers.

Q: Should the form be completed daily?

A: Yes, complete the form every day the child goes to school.

Q: If you did not get a form for code- how can you obtain that form?

A: Call the office and we will get it to you.

Q: My kid has allergies now what?

A: You know your kids- If it is not a "symptom" per se teachers will send child to nurse to make decision.



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\*If you get sent home from the nurse, then you cannot return until the results are available from the doctor.

For Reference: [cdoupis@lakelandschools.org](mailto:cdoupis@lakelandschools.org)- Nurse email for communication/specific questions.

Q: Various questions related to pick-up and the code process and procedure.

A: The goal is to avoid parents from having to get out of their car. Parents will be creating a code on the dismissal google form. When it is time to drop off in the morning, parents drive up, share your name, and share the code. You need the code to pick up your child.

Q: How will K/1 students be escorted to classroom?

A: Bus drivers will ask students who are eating breakfast to go into the building first. They will line up 6 ft apart and staff will walk them to the APR. K/1 will be dropped off first as their classrooms are in the front. At 8:20am all students will depart from the bus and enter the school through the back entrance. They will be guided by many staff members who will be outside and in the hallways.

Q: Pick-up FYI:

A: If you need to have someone else pick-up your child, send in a note with their name, the name of your child, your child's grade and call the school.

Q: If I live across the street can I walk my child to school?

A: Yes, you can walk across the street for pick up/drop off.

### PTA COMMITTEE UPDATES

The PTA Board members discussed the following PTA Committees:

- Virtual Book Fair-

The virtual book fair will take place in October and run for two weeks from 10/12-10/23. It is an online only event. The notification will go out to families via email.

Halloween

- The week of Halloween the PTA would like parents to send in a picture of their child and their decorated pumpkin. It can be a real pumpkin, paper pumpkin, anything to show their imagination. The PTA will post the pictures to Facebook.
- Spirit Week- Wear your gear! The PTA will also be posting themed weeks on their Facebook page. Please post pictures if you would like to participate.
- Spirit Wear

A google form will be going out soon for parents to order GW spirit wear. The t-shirts and hoodies will be red. The specific design was displayed during the meeting.

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee

Audrey Lewin, Chair addressed the PTA. Audrey informed the PTA that this would be her 17<sup>th</sup> year at GW with her 3<sup>rd</sup> and last child. As Chair of the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee, she has started a Facebook page for the 5<sup>th</sup> grader parents to organize the 2020-2021 year. The most urgent item right now is to order t-shirts. She will need all 5<sup>th</sup> grader student's sizes. She will also need many volunteers to assist with the Committee. Please join the GW 5<sup>th</sup> Grade 2020-2021 Facebook page if interested.



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- Fundraising

Several links were shared on the PTA agenda for active fundraising events.

- Amazon smile- Set your link to GW elementary school and all purchases will come back to GW.
- Shutterfly- Get gifts, photos for the house, etc. use our Shutterfly and we can get 8% helps us to raise money.
- FlipGive- Shop through FlipGive online at stores like Nike, Kohls, Macys- at different times they give different percentage goes back to GW and still honor your coupons. It is so easy to raise money this way. Last year GW earned \$900 with this specific fundraising tool.

### Other Things to Note:

Lakeland Central School District Emotional Support Helpline 914-603 9089

1. Friday 9/25/2020 is the deadline to submit Dads Day photos with [GWKindness@lakelandschools.org](mailto:GWKindness@lakelandschools.org)
2. Future GW PTA Meetings:
  - 11/17/2020
  - 3/15/2021
  - 5/10/2021

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenna Korn

GW PTA Recording Secretary