

George H. McVey PTA
General Membership Meeting
September 9, 2025

Call to Order: 7:12pm

- I. Pledge of Allegiance: 7:12pm
- II. Approval of June Minutes: No corrections; Minutes stand as approved
- III. Treasurer's Report: Siobhan Licastro: Last Statement Balance (8/31/25): \$19,156.81; Current Balance (9/9/25): \$20,613.17: Waiting on School supplies and GOAT fundraiser. Motion to approve budget: Karen Heckman Second: Taleen Krug
-2025-2026 Budget Approved-
- IV. Principal's Report: Ms. Dunne
Looking forward to a wonderful year
 - a. Budget: Covers so many things: PTA events are remembered most by students Describes numerous events including BBQ, Bingo, Field Day, May Madness, etc. We need volunteers to make these events possible
 - b. McVey PTA got National Recognition: YAY!
 - c. First day of school: Went very smooth
 - d. Upgrades: Three security supervisors; new doorknobs; new walkie talkies (super cool) that make it easy to contact **district** personnel
 - e. Safety: Completed bus drills/fire drills/lockdown drills (known to students as secret hiding place drills)
New K-2 bus tags for safety of younger students
Early October first full safety drill
 - f. 75th Years of McVey: In 1988 McVey voted to call McVey the Mustangs. Ms. Dunne changed gears a bit to make students feel better about themselves. Started the Mighty Minds Movement. The birth of Mighty Mind and Dr. Distractor. Children created skits with these newly developed characters. The message was: Kindness, Perseverance. A senior from the high school first drew "Mighty Mind," the character. 75th Anniversary image incorporates "Mustangs" and "Mighty Minds." EVOLUTION!!
 - g. Assessment Results: ELA and Math are now consistent instead of ELA being lower than math. Science results increased by 12 percent. Level of mastery highest in district and higher than regent and state.
 - h. New protocol: Parents coming to building must make appointment; tighter protocols necessary for events, class parties; this is a districtwide tightening of protocol, not just McVey. Looking forward to wonderful year.
- V. Assistant Principal's Report: Mr. Minerva
Deals with safety; safety walks and safety meetings next week
Bussing started off well; staffed better; hopefully it stays that way
- VI. Teacher Liason's Report: Ms. Jalfin: Teaching 21 years; excited to see new faces/old faces; Thanks PTA for coffee bar; Describes role as liaison between school and parents; looking forward to a great year
- VII. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Rosner: Not in attendance

VIII. President's Report: Julie Leake and Allison Vardakis

- a. School of Excellence: Recognized for a few years; Survey will be sent out asking how PTA can better support parents. We get a lot of feedback
- b. Membership Mania Grant: \$500 grant because board members took training
- c. Kindergarten Signs: Received well by community; social media posts are great; Got caught putting signs out by multiple ring cameras; over 80 lawn signs
- d. Welcome Back Coffee bar and Supply Drop-off: Business: NY Caffeine donated coffee: Parent of one of our students owns it. 343 students dropped off supplies at school supply drop off
- e. Welcome Back Social: Great fun! Hope everyone enjoyed
- f. School Spirit Wear: Digitech New merchandise; Check it out
- g. Council Delegates Needed: Up to nine. Three times a year at Salisbury Center October, February, and April; must attend meeting. Ed Connelly, Corinne LaRosa and Kristina Polacco volunteered
- h. Volunteer Sign Up Sheets: many committees are looking for Chairpeople and Co-Chairs; Please sign up

IX. VP Report: Karen Heckman & Taleen Krug

Welcome Back

X. Secretary Report: Amy Ramnarine & Jessica Shea

Over the summer: Cards delivered for pregnancy announcements, marriages

XI. Committee Reports:

- a. Membership: Karen Heckman Goal: 604 members; Currently: 329 members
- b. Access & Curriculum: Amy Ramnarine & Allison Vardakis: Takes place second Wednesday of the month at 9:30AM; made up of all East Meadow PTA members; different topics presented in Math, science, etc. Take what they learn and bring it back to McVey
- c. Arts & Education: Amy Ramnarine & Andrea Yorek: Books assemblies for McVey through the PTA: Jared Campbell is booked for the end of the school year;
- d. Safety & Transportation: Jennifer Reinhardt: Not in attendance: First safety walk is next week. Feel free to contact her through McVey website
- e. 5th Grade Committee: Amy Ramnarine & Taleen Krug: Raises money for events for our fifth graders; bagel breakfast, dance (LI Marriot this year), pizza party, yearbooks; smencil sales, bracelets
- f. World's Finest Chocolate Sale: David Molina, Vanessa Molina & Sue Arias: Sue in attendance: Reach out with any questions: Ask if you want more chocolate and return unopened. Ms. Dunne saw students selling chocolate at Stew Leonard's

Runs from 9/9-10/10

Upcoming Events:

-Reflections: Liz DeRiggi & Renee Murphy: Second year doing Reflections. Aims to get students to do artwork; These year's theme is "I Belong" How can you represent "I Belong" Can be artwork, dance, etc. By October 24 you must submit your art. Whoever wins goes to the next level. Celebrate winners in November!

- Fall Plant Sale: Christina Reyes: Form goes home tomorrow with students

- Fall Photos: Julie & Amy: 9/18 & 9/19: Flyer going home with schedule on back; if you want to volunteer it is appreciated

-75 Year McVey Anniversary Festival: 9/26 After school; flyer coming home; food trucks coming (Tasty Taxi, Donna's Italian Sausage, Cousins Lobster)

- Apparel Sale: Long Island Athletic: Karen Heckman Next apparel sale 9/29-10/10 Pajama pants, sweatshirts, sweatpants

-Spooky Walk: Allison Vardakis, Allison Benzenberg, Dan Benzenberg & Mrs. Tsouristakis 10/27

Allison B: Explains the howl; Spooky Walk will be in café b; Needs volunteers making the walk the weekend before; great for someone with availability in evening or weekends; there will be a wish list for anyone who can donate supplies needed to make spooky walk.

-Kindergarten Pumpkin Patch: Kathleen: For PreK and Kindergarten; pumpkins not too big; Crystal Fruits and Vegetables donate pumpkins for the event. Please sign up to volunteer! There is also a scavenger hunt

Picked Raffle door prize: Winner is Lily Chang

Motion to Adjourn: 8:09pm

APPROVED