

George H. McVey PTA  
General Membership Meeting  
November 18, 2025

**Call to Order:**

- I. Pledge of Allegiance: 7:02pm
- II. Approval of October Minutes: No corrections; Minutes stand as approved
- III. Treasurer's Report: Siobhan Licastro: Last Statement Balance (10/31/25): \$40,243.29;  
Current Balance (11/16/25): \$55,311.19  
Recent Fundraising Income:
  - a. Chuck E. Cheese: \$724.64
  - b. Halloween Howl Baskets: \$2,126.00
  - c. 50/50 Halloween Howl: \$358.00
  - d. Miss Chocolate: \$1,813.80
  - e. Scholastic Book Fair: \$3,112.44
  - f. Election Day Bake Sale: \$1,054.00
  - g. Election Day Basket: \$679.00
  - h. World's Finest: TBD
  - i. LI Athletic Spiritwear: TBD
- IV. Principal's Report: Ms. Dunne
  - a. Thank you, PTA, for our Howl and Spooky Walk; thank you volunteers
  - b. McVey had First Annual Balloon Race: super fun
  - c. Corey the Dribbler: Thank you; students enjoyed; extension on Wellness Week: Red Ribbon Week
  - d. Turkey Trot will be next Wednesday; parents are welcome
  - e. Winter Concert: December 8
  - f. Met with PTA on Election Day: We will be unveiling time capsule in spring; possibly on flag day followed by an evening event where those who participated can see the contents unveiled; McVey current students will create a time capsule this year for students in 50 years; every child will have something in our capsule; spearheaded by our beautification team
  - g. Working on a mural for cafeteria B: "The McVey Way"; Talented custodian Mike sketched something out; Café A- Snow White and dwarfs will be more connected and flow so the children can follow the story better
  - h. Emergency Drill: December
  - i. Getting a new permanent full time security guard; former police officer and firefighter
  - j. Hallways have new lighting; classrooms to follow
  - k. Working on room number signs- Beautification team working on this- Coming soon
  - l. Update on Education: News release: McVey top 100 schools in state; top 10 in Nassau County; East Meadow up there with other towns such as Jericho, Roslyn, etc. Only 8 classroom teachers currently working at McVey were here when Ms. Dunne got here. Results give a lot of feedback about how we are doing and how our children are doing.
  - m. Education Goals:

- i. Increase Fluency
    - ii. Work on System one vs system two thinking:  
System one – more automatic  
System two- takes more thought process (Two step word problem is in system 2). Working on improving skill and then you can apply it.
  - n. Parent Teacher Conference: Monday, December 8 at 4pm; progress reports live; conferences to follow. It is a 10-minute conference. For our parents: Please look at indicators on report card and have bullet points to ask teacher in conference. We want to make sure you have a productive conference and time is utilized properly. Teachers are here at night to accommodate schedules.
- V. Assistant Principal's Report: Mr. Minerva: Update on safety report: Completed safety walk through; Current safety situations include playground mats outside; Windows hopefully get replaced in gym; district knows about these things; coming up with a plan; carpeting in front by the entrance; second bus drill out of three went well. Went over proper bus etiquette; it's important to make sure parents are not in the street so bus can properly pull up
- VI. Teacher Liason's Report: Ms. Jalfin: Not here; thanks to people who purchased books from book fair for our teachers
- VII. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Rosner:
- a. Minerva and all assistant principals went to the police department training on superintendents' day; learned situational awareness; Explained how a mock town is on site and police officers are training in this mock town.
  - b. Major problem with E-bikes zipping around neighborhoods. If you are under 16 you will get your bike confiscated; more of a high school issue. Bikes were confiscated on Sunday around McVey
  - c. Super impressive news: McVey is a top school in NYS and top 10 in Nassau County. Great Numbers
  - d. McVey Expansion Project: In 2022 community approved expansion project; included a lot of construction; got delayed and now we are in 2025 and there has been no expansion. There is a space issue at McVey; The cost has now changed by a few million. What we want: We want to get the APR back for its purpose; we want to get classrooms out of the APR; meeting to discuss this is tomorrow. I didn't make comments about this during board meeting because I wanted to come discuss the situation at McVey first before addressing it at the board meeting. We lost two sections of classrooms last year. We are going to look at those rooms. Rosner will let everyone know when he will speak more about this expansion project.

Jennifer Reinhardt: Question: What is new timeline?

Rosner: Hope to make final decision by January. Hired project manager to get new estimate. 9-10 million dollars on 3 classrooms. People may ask: Why are you asking for another 4 million dollars. And that is a legitimate question.

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

October Pink Shirt Sales: Breast Cancer Awareness: Donated proceeds to Susan G. Komen Foundation: Total \$390.00 Round up to \$400.00 and donated.

- a. Committee Chairperson and Class Parent Committee: Emails were sent out to everyone. Let us know if you did not receive an email.

IX. VP Report: Karen Heckman & Taleen Krug: Nothing to report

X. Secretary Report: Amy Ramnarine & Jessica Shea: Nothing to report

XI. Committee Reports:

- a. Reflection Awards: Liz DeRiggi & Renee Murphy: We are here to celebrate the students who won “Reflections” contest; “I belong” was the theme; literature and visual art submitted.

Metals and Awards:

Visual Art: K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Chloe Zhang; 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Aiden Viegas

Literature: K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade: Jordan Rong

Visual Artist: 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Kelly Rubino; 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Hwain Jung

Literature Artist: 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Hwain Jung

- b. Student Council: Student council members discuss upcoming events Matty Mazello and Sophia Vardakis introduce themselves; hosting annual pet drive; annual candygrams; students can send candy to one another; money used for adopt a family
- c. Membership: Karen Heckman Goal: 604 members; Currently: 479
- d. Access & Curriculum: Amy Ramnarine, Allison Vardakis & Lily Chan: Datamate is a new program teachers are using; everything in one central spot; sounds like a great program; next meeting in December will be on health curriculum
- e. Safety & Transportation: Jennifer Reinhardt: Carpets will be branded; excited about lights; potential bond presented at next board meeting
- f. Arts in Education: Amy Ramnarine, Andrea Yorek & Ed Connelly: Corey the Dribbler came and everyone had a great time; Jared Campbell will be back at the end of the year
- g. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee: Amy Ramnarine & Taleen Krug: Thank you for supporting Pie Sale; Pick up is 11/25 and 11/26. McVey Bracelets are next and the movie event 12/13 to see Zootopia; lastly, vendor sale on 12/9 from 5-8pm in the gym
- h. World’s Finest Chocolate Sale: David Molina, Vanessa Molina & Sue Arias: Runs from 9/9-10/10; send in money
- i. LI Athletic Apparel Sale: Karen Heckman: Orders went out last Friday
- j. Fall Catalog: Michelle Robertson; Less in sales than previously. Still sold \$3,000 worth of items; Orders were distributed last week
- k. Fire Prevention Day: Marc & Julie Williams: Went smooth; firefighters came, and the children got to see teachers lifted on the truck
- l. Wellness Walk: Danielle Mathis- Allsion- Walk was done around the streets this year and it worked out great
- m. Chuck E. Cheese: Siobhan Licastro- New Manager at Chuck E Cheese gave us a percentage of sales even if you weren’t from McVey
- n. Kindergarten Pumpkin Patch: Jennifer Reinhardt, Katy Marascia & Kathleen Volpe; Thank you to the volunteers; the children had a great time; took pictures; played games; team effort and a wonderful event

- o. Halloween Howl: Julie Williams & Lauren DaSilva; Thank you to all of the volunteers; thanks for donated items; thanks for serving; 450 students approx. came to the howl; such a huge event
- p. Spooky Walk: Dan Benzenberg, Allison Benzenberg, Allison Vardakis, & Mrs. Tsouristakis; Thank you to everyone who volunteered; need more volunteers for next year; went really well and we got good feedback; Ed Connelly took great video
- q. Election Day Bake Sale: Julie Leake & Colleen Rubino; Colleen: Made a little over \$1,000 and thank you for providing things to sell.
- r. Fall Book Fair: Lily Chan, Jess Shea, & Allison Vardakis: Successful 3 days plus our Election Day Preview, we had some devoted volunteers who not only gave their time but also purchased books for our teachers' classrooms off their wish lists. PTA paid to get our school library the new "Dogman" book that was just released.

### **Upcoming Events:**

-School Photo Retake Day: Julie Leake, Ed Connelly, Amy Ramnarine: 11/21; club photos will be taken on this day; kids will get graduation t-shirts that day; just fill out picture retake form and give to the teacher so we know how many students will be coming down

-Holiday Boutique: Taleen Krug & Lauren Vitagliano: 12/10-12/12 Will post the form for volunteers; lots of fun knick knacks for the kids

Ms. Dunne: All of these events are possible because of all the fundraising that is done during the year; we are the only school that does schoolwide events and not events by the grade. Cookiefest, Tie-dye Day, Bingo

Question: is there a flow to follow for morning drop off?

Ms. Dunne: When the school day got pushed back we knew it would be a bit of a change; it was done on a district level; We used to not allow front circle drop off but we started allowing it because there were safety issues; we needed more options for parents; we needed a secure entry for students coming to morning activities; Buses arrive 8:46-8:54; buses offloaded at 8:54; kindergarten first then first grade; team of 10-20 people taking the children off of buses; it was difficult beginning of school year; front circle clear by 9:03 now; we know all children wont get in by 9:06; children not marked late until 9:14- morning announcements; so you have time

December 16 @ 10:00am Next Meeting (Virtual)

**Motion to Adjourn:** 8:00