

Peekskill CSD PTO Committee/Building Report Form

Submission Date: April 2, 2016

Committee/Building: Middle School

Items Requiring a Vote:

- At the time of this report, there aren't any items requiring a vote. We will submit a couple of trips that might need some financial support for June 2016. They will be submitted in next week of two as we are fine tuning dates. They will submit BOCES forms as well.

Items Requiring Discussion:

- April 8th – Student Government Sponsored Twilight Event
 - Grade 6 students only from 6PM – 11PM
 - We are requesting PTO volunteers
 - Yolanda Guardino is our Student Government Advisor and supervising the event
- May 13th – Student Government Sponsored Stay-Awake-A-Thon
 - Grade 7 & 8 students only from 9PM – 6AM
 - We are requesting PTO volunteers
 - Yolanda Guardino is our Student Government Advisor and supervising the event

Items for Information Only:

- The Middle School students are doing very well again this school year. As you know, we added two math and two science accelerated classes to grade six. We also added two additional sections (for a total of three) for our seventh grade math classes and three for seventh grade science classes. These students have taken the challenging work seriously and continue to perform well. It is also a testament to the teachers in the programs and throughout the grades and school-wide curricula.
- Our daily message of doing the work, making wise choices, and helping a friend/classmate/student has been very well received. The middle school counselors and teachers continue to focus on character education (inclusive of bullying awareness, healthy lifestyles, preparing for the world outside of the middle school years and experience, and what it requires to be a successful, positively contributing global citizen), work ethic, and determination. As a result, student interactions and academic performance have improved.
- Margaret's Place (Joe Torre's Domestic Violence/Trauma Awareness Organization) supports our students with a "safe room" to talk to each other and a professional counselor trained in domestic violence intervention and prevention about violence-related issues. Our students have conducted school-wide anti-violence campaigns, healthy relationship campaigns, and are peer leaders. Students who normally don't communicate difficulties in their lives (at home and school) are sharing those challenges and receiving the assistance they need. Ms. Recabo (Margaret's Place counselor) works very closely with the school counselors, school psychologists, teachers, and administration.
- Saturday Academy (10 weeks offered to students who need extra support) continues to improve student learning and achievement, organizational skills, and studying skills.

- The Music in Our Schools Concert (March 29, 2016), housed in the Middle School, was a great showing of our district-wide population and hugely successful. All schools presented themselves and the schools/district with presence and professionalism. Shout out to all the teachers who prepared and continue to prepare our students for excellence.
- LEAP's Living Legacy Awards/PKMS Girls and Boys Who Rock Night was held on March 31, 2016. It was an amazing event under the creative guardianship of Mrs. Naima Smith Moore. The students represented themselves very well and the community and staff members being honored and celebrated were immensely appreciative. The Middle School Drama Club, Dance Club, and Steppers further enhanced the event by demonstrating the talent that our students possess. The theme of the event was It Takes A Village – Our Family Our Culture. In that same vein, we honored:

1. Community Awards

- a. Hon. Reginald Johnson
- b. Patrick Buckiewicz
- c. Sunny Cover
- d. Wilfredo Morel
- e. Andre Rainey
- f. Ed Jones
- g. Janice Reid

2. PKMS Boys & Girls Rock Awards

- a. Stefon Dabbs
- b. Malachi McDonald
- c. Kendall Cousins
- d. Tania Flores Candia
- e. Azaria Johnson
- f. Miranda Santos
- g. Keosha Smith
- h. Mariam Osei Poku
- i. William Usticke

3. LEAP Partners & Supporters Awardee

- a. Darryl Francis
- b. Sylvia Adams
- c. Z-Recording Studio

4. Living Legacy Award - Trailblazer

- a. Mr. James Taylor

- Our evacuation and emergency response drills are continuously performed well and within recommended timeframes.
- The following are upcoming events and dates:

April 5 -7 ELA Exam, April 13-15 Math Exam – schedule to follow

April 8th – TWILIGHT Event – 6PM – 11PM at PKMS

April 12 – May 13 – NYSESLAT Speaking

May 2 – 13 – NYSESLAT Listening, Reading, Writing

April 20th – Harlem Wizards School Visit - 1PM in Gym

April 22nd – Superintendent’s Conference Day

April 26th – National Junior Honor Society Ceremony – 7PM at PKMS

April 28th & 29th – Spring Parent Conference – additional information to follow next week

May 3rd – Teacher Appreciate Day

May 8th – National Nurse’s Day

May 18th – PKMS Spring Concert – 7PM

May 20th – Harlem Wizards Game - PHS