

Peekskill CSD PTO Committee Report Form

Submission Date January 4, 2021 _____ Month & Year 1/2021 _____

Committee Advocacy _____

Items Requiring a Vote:

(None.)

Items Requiring Discussion:

Thank you to the executive committee member who generously donated to our committee; we will use the gift to express our gratitude to AQE for our upcoming trainings. Thank you also, Dr. Mauricio, for your generous donation to the PTO.

Items for Information Only:

Maria Bautista and Stevie Vargas from the Alliance for Quality Education (AQE) will be leading two trainings for members of our school community: the first is on the Campaign for Fiscal Equity, followed by a “How To” training on legislative advocacy, to help Peekskill earn the state aid it deserves. These will take place on two nights in January:

- 1. Thursday, 1/14/21, 6 - 8 pm: A history of the Campaign for Fiscal Equity (CFE), Foundation Aid, and a state education policy overview;**
- 2. Thursday, 1/21/21, 6 - 8 pm: Legislative and lobbying training, with an overview of the current politics of education in Albany.**

Maria, Stevie, Marisa, Margery, and Eric will also meet this Thursday, 1/7/21, to plan for these meetings.

PTO, PCSD (including administrators and the BOE), PFA, PEF, NAACP, and other community members have been invited to these free trainings. Our goals in planning them are: to increase community awareness around state education aid; and to develop a dedicated and skilled advocacy team who can work together over time, to fight for what Peekskill students deserve, using a variety of lobbying and advocacy techniques.

Margery will join BOE & PCSD staff representatives at Advocacy meetings with State Senator Pete Harckham on 1/8/21 and with Assemblywoman Sandy Galef on 1/15/21 to address concerns over funding disparities.

Submitted by: Eric Reveda & Margery Rossi