

Peekskill PTO General Meeting Minutes

Date: October 6, 2025

Location: PSCD Admin Building

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Officers Present:

- President: Jennifer Carbaugh
- Vice President: Sandra Walton
- Secretary: Evelisse Mercado
- Treasurer: Yolanda Cruikshank

Welcome and Introductions

President Jennifer Carbaugh opened the meeting with introductions of the PTO officers and attendees.

What is the PTO?

The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is a group of dedicated parents, guardians, grandparents, teachers, and staff who collaborate to enhance the school community.

What Does Our PTO Do?

The PTO supports the school community through fundraising and volunteer efforts. Current and past fundraising initiatives include:

- Class photos
- Direct appeals
- T-shirt and Peekskill Pride gear sales
- Concessions
- Catalogue sales
- Art to Remember
- Spring fundraiser
- Dine-out events
- Book fairs
- Sporting event fundraisers
- Breast Cancer Awareness shirt sales

The four PTO officers plan these initiatives, and volunteers play a vital role in helping them succeed.

A new catalogue fundraiser for elementary students officially began on October 6th.

Fundraising QR Code

Members were invited to submit ideas for new fundraisers via the QR code provided and to vote for the best volunteer-led fundraiser.

Fundraising Expenses

Funds raised by the PTO are reinvested back into the schools to support various events and initiatives. The PTO also covers a few operational costs, which are kept as low as possible to maximize support for schools.

Trunk or Treat Event

Date: Saturday, October 25th

Location: Indoors

Quiet Walk Option: A designated area will be available for students who are sensitive to lights, music, or noise.

Volunteer Signup: A SignUpGenius link will be available for families interested in hosting a trunk.

Families are encouraged to donate bags of candy to their schools. Signs will be posted at all school buildings.

Spring Event Planning

A Spring Event QR Code was shared for families to submit ideas and vote on possible events. Suggestions include:

- Bingo Night
- Parent's Night Out
- Additional community-building ideas

Community Support and Partnerships

The PTO is partnering with the Athletics Department for the Red Devils Soccer Game.

SEPTO (Special Education PTO) will hold its next meeting on October 22, 2025. Randi serves as SEPTO President.

Move with MADD Westchester will take place on October 18th at FDR Park.

- Maria Leff, a volunteer with MADD, shared information about the organization's mission and local events.
- MADD partners with the District Attorney's Office to prevent drunk driving.
- Funds raised provide free 24/7 victim services, school-based prevention programs, and community education.
- The Westchester fundraising goal is \$45,000.

Parent Leadership Teams

As a district-wide PTO, efforts continue to support community-building at each individual school.

The PTO is collaborating with principals to determine how to best allocate funds raised by families. Each school has been allotted funding to support:

- Dances
- Graduation photos
- Assemblies
- Gardens
- Field days
- Celebrations
- Staff appreciation events

Staying Connected

Families are encouraged to follow the Peekskill PTO Instagram page to stay updated on upcoming events, fundraisers, and volunteer opportunities.

Q&A

An open discussion was held for parent and community questions.

Minutes recorded by: Evelisse Mercado, PTO Secretary