



Birch Lane  
**PTA®**

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Birch Lane  
Massapequa Park, NY 11762

### **BIRCH LANE PTA**

Executive/General Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, September 24, 2021

#### **PTA General Membership Meeting**

Date: Friday, September 24, 2021

Time: 9:45 am

Place: Birch Lane Front Gym

Heather Callahan, President

- Meeting called to order at 9:52am
- A quorum was present 15 members

#### **President's Report:**

*Vote and Approve Prior Meeting Minutes*

Approved last meeting's minutes from May 11, 2021

#### **Thank You to:**

PARP Committee won Nassau County Region Award (Grace Marie Rozea)

Kindergarten Committee for the signs and Boo Hoo Breakfast (Elizabeth Edelbach)

Welcome Back Bash (Lisa Sessa and Jessica Buckley)

Bulletin Board (Stacey Sandurs and Kristen Larmann)

Birch Twig and Website (Jen Saporita)

Hospitality Committee (Katie McCauley and Jodi Ricardo)

#### **Correspondence Report** - Kiri Spillane

Mr. Aspetti and Mrs. Larkin, and Kindergarten and Fifth Grade Teachers sent thank you notes for the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

#### **Treasurer Report** - Marianna Somers

As of September 23, 2021, our balance is \$30,178.07

#### **Income:**

Spring Spirit Wear approximately \$1900

Picture day \$5600

Supply Kits \$3100

Spring Plant Sale \$505

Spring Fundraiser \$105

#### **Expenses:**

Planter Kits \$1300

PTA Award Expenses \$500

Field Day \$2100

Escape Room \$600  
Planners for 2021-2022 \$1400  
Scholarships \$1600

**Membership Update:**

337 Members

In order to be a class parent you must have an active PTA membership renewed every year

**Budget Vote**

Motion made to approve the proposed budget for 2021-2022 school year  
Budget passed

**Audit Report** – Erin Liana (presented by Amy MacLeod)

Examined records of Birch Lane PTA and found them to be correct and in good standing

**Bylaws Vote**

Move to vote to approve no changes to our current by-laws  
By-laws were approved

**SEPTA Report** - Anthony Prizzi (presented by Heather Callahan)

Massapequa SEPTA hopes that everyone had a safe, healthy, restful and wonderful summer. We have high hopes and big plans for the upcoming school year. As always, we extend an invitation for everyone to join, volunteer and be a part of SEPTA. We have many exciting speakers and events in the works for the new school year. Our first meeting will be on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Please visit our website to stay informed, to join SEPTA, sign up for SEPTA Remind, and view all of our spirit wear items available for purchase. Please visit and like our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MassapequaSEPTA>. SEPTA fundraising items are available on membership hub. Anyone that is interested in becoming a SEPTA member please visit <https://massapequasepta.memberhub.store>. Visit our website <https://massapequasepta.wordpress.com>. If you are interested in volunteering with Massapequa SEPTA please contact us at [msdsepta@gmail.com](mailto:msdsepta@gmail.com).

**BOE Report** - Stephanie Iannuzzi

*Meeting on September 23, 2021*

Ms. Iconis' Retirement – The Board thanked Ms. Iconis for her work as the Superintendent for the Massapequa School District.

Informational Items – Ms. Iconis

Board of Education Goals – 2021-2022

Most important goal: Identify and address the gaps in learning that were caused by the interruption to the normal school structure due to Covid.

*Broken up into five major sections:*

Goal 1: Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, and Technology

Goal 2: Budget, District Operations, and Facility Projects

Goal 3: Social and Emotional Learning

Goal 4: Communication

Goal 5: Board Operations

**District Update**

Class of 2022 Valedictorian is Matthew McAuley and Salutatorian is Erin Goldrick  
Homecoming is this Saturday

**Resolutions:**

Covid Testing – Mr. Schilling discussed that it is a state DOH mandate that all staff must be tested for Covid-19 on a weekly basis; those who are vaccinated are able to opt out. This will start in the beginning of October.

**Welcome Back Bash** – Jessica Buckley

Looking forward to bringing back the Welcome Back Bash!

Look for the photo booth

We're expecting an excellent turn out and look forward to seeing you there!

**Spirit Wear** – Christine Fahey

The Birch Lane Spirit Wear committee has been working with New Wave Sports to bring you new and exciting merchandise this fall. The online store is almost ready and we are awaiting the sample of the flyer from New Wave; we will deliver the fliers for distribution through the school as soon as we get them. We are looking to have the online store opened by October 4<sup>th</sup> through October 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be two delivery options this fall, one for delivery to Birch Lane (merchandise sorted by grade, teacher, and student) or a flat delivery fee. My co-chair Kim Rumberg and I are excited for all of the items available in the store and we are looking forward to a successful fundraising event. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to either one of us.

**Fall Plant Sale** – Vicki Abbinanti

Forms are due back today, September 24<sup>th</sup>, the order is going in on Sunday

Delivery is Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> and pick-ups will be Thursday and Friday after school

**Health and Wellness** - Lauren Carollo (*presented by Amy MacLeod*)

Birch Lane is participating in Walk to School day on Wednesday October 6<sup>th</sup>

To make it fun for the children we will be including a scavenger hunt for the children to utilize along the way

**Picture Day** – Elizabeth Edelbach

October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> (Patken Photography)

This year we will be doing a group photo

Make-Ups will be in early November

**Reflections** – Jenni Mignone (*presented by Marianna Freda Somers*)

The Reflections Art Contest will run again this year! Please be on the lookout next week for flyers to come home regarding our contest for 2021-2022. This year students are asked to reflect on the theme "I will change the world by..."

Children can express their creativity to change the world through the categories of Visual Art, Musical Composition, Literature, Photography and Film! Entries can be submitted at Birch Lane on November 10<sup>th</sup> (6pm-8pm) and November 12<sup>th</sup> (3:30-5:00pm).

**Teacher Reports** – Ms. Reedy and Miss Downey

Kindergarten:

Kicking off to a great start

Learning new routines and making new friends

Listening to stories

Learning what it takes to be a good reader, listener and speaker

Introduced to Echo Foundations program

Exploring counting to 5

Rooms are filled with read alouds celebrating colors, apples, and fall

First Grade:

Learning and growing so much in first grade

Learning how to be kind to others and good community members

Established rules and routines in readers and writers workshop

Social Studies- learning about being good citizens and classroom responsibilities

Math- new strategies and learning to count on

### Second Grade:

Launching reading and writing workshop  
Learning about their rules and responsibilities in writers workshop  
Learning about good citizens  
Math- learning mental math strategies for addition and subtraction  
Character book reports are coming soon

### Third Grade:

Third graders are off to a great start!  
Learning classroom routine with new teachers  
Math- place value and adding multi digit numbers  
Social Studies- geography  
Writing Unit- decorating writers notebook  
Reading- fiction stories

### Fourth Grade:

Fourth Grade is off to a fantastic start!  
Social Studies- learning about world geography  
Math- place value  
Started their first week in enrichment learning about the structure and function of plants

### Fifth Grade:

Worked hard on their back to school projects including virtual cubbies  
Quickly adjusted to their new routines and are excellent role models  
Math- learning about volume  
Science and enrichment- learning about matter in science and enrichment  
Social Studies- learning about geography  
ELA- started word work and reading and writing units  
Look forward to fun and exciting activities as they prepare for middle school

### **Reports from Administration:** Mr. Aspetti and Mrs. Larkin

Thank you for the faculty luncheon on the first day of school!  
Thank you to the Bulletin Board committee- the students love the birthday bulletin boards and we look forward to seeing the new themes each month  
Looking forward to our back to school bash today!  
Thank you for all of your hard work to all of the committees!

### **Building News:**

Construction and AC throughout the building  
All of the classrooms are air conditioned  
Thank you to our crews in Massapequa and custodians!  
We have some other things going on in the building:  
Fences on Nassau Street-outdoor activities and mask breaks, we utilize them daily when we can  
We added crash bars to our back fields for safety and security in case we need to evacuate the building in an emergency  
Fences around the building have been repaired  
New flooring going into the GP room  
Paneling throughout the building  
Getting a new swing set in our recess area

5<sup>th</sup> grade ensembles beginning next week  
Orchestra starting on Wednesday in GP room with 3-feet required distance  
Chorus starts on Thursday in front gym (arrival is front door)  
Band starting on Friday in back gym (arrival on Nassau Street)  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade ensembles starting mid-October

Class Parent Tea on Tuesday September 28<sup>th</sup> in the back gym at 8:15am and then sent to individual classrooms

Extra help beginning on October 6<sup>th</sup> doors open at 8:40am with drop and go on Nassau Street and is open to all students

In the process of organizing clubs for the school year for grades 3, 4, and 5 and a letter will be going out in a few weeks

Our building theme this year is "Perseverance" and talking about the magic of the word "yet" ...everything comes with hard work and practice

Back to school Night is this Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. All visitors need to wear masks.

There is turn over every year with a traveling teacher (they spend most of their day in another building and then cover some sections at Birch Lane) since our school is the biggest elementary school in the district.

Mrs. Jaronsik is the new art teacher

Mr. Hansen is another new PE teacher

Comment was made in support of outdoor learning even after masks are no longer required

*Question asked:*

Is there going to be a Halloween parade?

*Answer:* Yes, on the Friday before Halloween, a notice will be going home.

### **Upcoming Events:**

#### **October**

October 1 – Last Day for Fall Plant Sale Pick up

October 6 - Walk/Bike to School Day

October 7 – BOE Meeting

October 11 – Indigenous Peoples Day – School Closed

October 13-14 – Picture Day

October 15 – PTA Meeting Breakfast with the Principal

October 21 – BOE Meeting

*Meeting Ended at 10:37 am*