

REACH Parent Group Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 10, 2022

6:30pm via ZOOM

REACH Parent Group, a committee of the PTA Council, is a parent group dedicated to supporting gifted and talented programs in District 205 and encouraging higher level educational opportunities for ALL District 205 students. Our area of focus includes:

- Providing parent and student resources for gifted and advanced learners
- Organizing advocacy at local and national levels
- Sponsoring and/or promoting academic-based extra-curricular activities that are accessible to all students
- Collaborating with REACH teachers to provide additional resources and student opportunities.

- Join Zoom Meeting
- <https://elmhurst205.zoom.us/j/86182982188?pwd=OXVNMjVNcWxuTGsvK3dpdEpVbGt2dz09>
- Meeting ID: 861 8298 2188
- Passcode: 071001

MEETING TOPICS:

- 1) Introductions ~ Sarah Jensen, REACH PG Chair

PTA Council & Strategic Planning update

Summer programming - new classes for middle school - Project Lead the Way, for example

Strategic planning - the goal is to develop a portrait of a D205 graduate. Future focused; community involvement (surveys, focus group)

Mission statement and purpose for the district so all actions align with them. Three phases:

1. Engage - community; focus groups with teachers, admins, parents, park district, city of Elmhurst
2. Focus
3. Execute

- 2) Guest Speaker ~ Dave Beedy, Director of STEM, District 205
 - Making math fun for Elementary School Students [presentation](#)
 - Dave shared a variety of ideas, websites, apps and programs to help engage students with math

- 3) Kerry Leuschel, D205 Director of Curriculum & Instructional Supports ~ Brief update to appeals process and rubric

Identification letters went out on Feb 18. Appeals closed on March 1st.

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The appeal process is adding metrics to make sure all qualifying students are identified. Appeals decisions for middle school will take place in the summer due to delayed IAR scores.

Additional testing to be done prior to Spring break, unless some testing is already built in the school calendar.

5th grade will get appeals notifications early April, all other grades closer to the summer, due to already scheduled testing.

4) Mathletes Discussion ~ Reps to share updates on their schools for:

- Spring Elementary Noetic Competition
- School IML Competition
- Teacher Wish List (Miena to review outstanding schools)
- Status of Elementary School Math Night - looking for a math lead to coordinate math kits and supplies.

All but one elementary schools are participating in the Noetic competition.

For the schools or grades who are not participating, parents can register their kids as individual participants.

Middle school teachers to come and share some of their passion projects at the April meetings. Ms. Bolur at Bryan and Mr. Dahlman at Sandburg

NEW to REACH meeting before the end of the school year and one in August to be planned.

QUESTIONS / COMMENTS? Any topics of interest

UPCOMING REACH PG MEETINGS

- Thursday, April 14th ~ 6:30pm via ZOOM
- Thursday, May 12th ~ 1pm