

2020-2021
Accomplishments of the

Parent Educator Advisory Council

PEAC



Newtown, CT

PEAC GOALS



“To promote a partnership between educators and parents that will embrace core values, further a common language for all stakeholders, and support District priorities in the best interest of students.”

Dr. Lorrie Rodrigue, Superintendent



PEAC Sub-committees

Partnerships

Communications & Branding

Budget/Operational Plan

Diversity & Equity



At Our Core

Partnerships Team

Facilitator - Deborah Lubin (HAW Gr. K Teacher & Newtown Parent)

Newtown Parents and PTA Reps:

- Kelly Chokbengboune
- Kim Hettenbach
- Mary Murphy (PTA President)

Newtown Teachers:

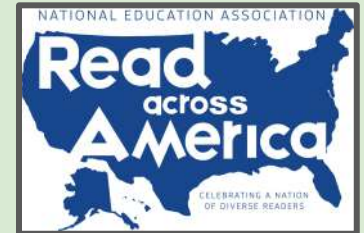
- Cynthia McArthur (SH Language Arts Consultant)
- Michelle Hiscavich (Dir. of Visual and Performing Arts, NHS Orchestra)



Partnerships Team Goals: To support, nurture, and assist in maintaining positive relationships between the Newtown Public Schools and our surrounding community.

2020-2021 Accomplishments

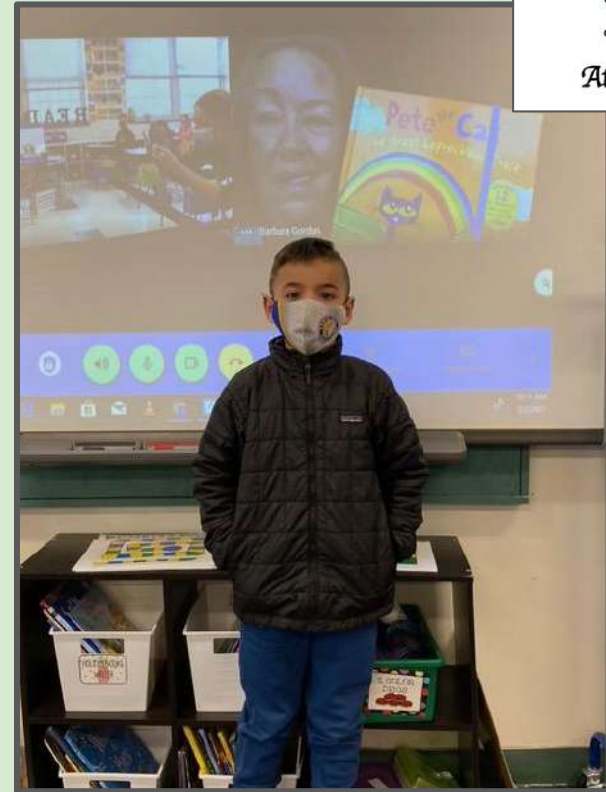
- Senior Virtual Readers for K-8 Read Across America Day
- Database of permanent Senior and volunteer readers Gr. K-4
- After school remote Social/Emotional Learning Groups Pilot Program K-6 began in January



Photos from Read Across America Day



At Our Core



Kids Core 2021-22

- Continue 2020-21 Social Emotional Learning Groups
- Three 8-week sessions offered throughout the year
- Small group settings in all elementary buildings
- Engaging activities to promote socialization
- No cost to Newtown families - grant funded
- Ability to reach out to 120 students





At Our Core

Partnership Team Future Visions:

- Kids Core Program through Continuing Education Gr. K-4
- Newtown students begin visiting Senior Center again and welcome Seniors back to our schools
- To be continued.....



Team:

Team Members:

Facilitator:

Janice Gabriel - NHS Theatre and ELA

Carmella Amodeo - NPS Technology Department

Monica Kwarcinski - Newtown Parent

Nadia Papalia - NMS Language Arts Consultant

Deborah Petersen - Director of Pupil Personnel

Denise Strong - RIS 5th Grade Math & Science

2020 - 2021 Accomplishments



Mission Statement Revision

- Held a focus group with 15 people representing each school, BOE, students, and parents.
- Reviewed the current mission statement and discussed if it captured our current practices.
- Developed three possible drafts of the mission statement and then worked as a subcommittee to combine the three into one cohesive revision to be presented to the district for feedback.
- Revised Drafter sent to all faculty and staff for feedback on May 24
- As of Friday, May 28, 111 staff members has provided feedback.

Next Steps:

- Communication and Branding Committee will review all of the feedback and incorporate it and discuss with Dr. Lorrie Rodrigue

2020 - 2021 Accomplishments

Blackboard for NPS

Launches - July 12, 2021



Blackboard Communicatio...

Education

★★★★☆ 25

OPEN



Budget/Operational Plan Team:

Subgroup facilitator

Michelle Y. Failla: NPS K-12 HE & PE Coordinator & 5/6 Health Teacher

Chris Geissler: Principal, Middle Gate Elementary School

Dr. Christianne Golesky: Newtown Parent

Jennifer Padilla: Newtown Parent & PTA President

Tanja Vadas: Director of Business & Finance Newtown



Budget Committee Goals:

- To increase community engagement and awareness in the budget process.
- To increase voter turnout for the budget vote in Town Budget Referendum on April 27, 2021



What we accomplished:



Created and distributed an educational [Budget Brochure](#) and [budget slideshow](#)



Created a [Spotlight slideshow](#) and a [Budget Spotlight video](#) published it on our YouTube channel



Collaborated with all seven District Principals to hold a relevant and timely opportunity for students to participate in the democratic process and vote on a topic specific to each school then reported the [outcome of each vote](#)



Created a [Letter to the Community](#) that included an invitation to vote on April 27.

Vote at Reed Intermediate School



The background features a series of vertical stripes in red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. A horizontal bar with a red background and a rainbow-colored gradient on the right side is positioned behind the text.

Diversity & Equity Team

WHO ARE WE?



EDUCATORS

Katherine Abrego – World Language Teacher NHS

Kristi Parille – World Language Teacher NHS

Frank Purcaro, Director of Teaching & Learning

Rachel Torres – Subgroup Facilitator, Social Studies Teacher at NHS, Parent

PARENTS/COMMUNITY

Sabeena Ali

Satra Arokium

Nanette Green

Melissa Mottola

Newman Rochester

David Weiss

Christine Wilford

GOALS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MISSION STATEMENT

Create a mission, vision, and values [D&E Statement](#)

COORDINATION

Leverage support for District [CEI position](#)

REPORTING

[Review](#) Reporting Policy, create [Decision Tree](#) Protocol, and [Reporting Form](#)

WANT A CLOSER LOOK?



WHAT'S NEXT?

MISSION STATEMENT

Subgroup collaboration

Continuation of alignment

CEI

Interviews and hiring process

Responsibilities & Training

REPORTING

Post reporting protocol

Education campaign



Questions?

Thank you for your time
and attention to this
important matter!

