



# BARNARD PTA NEWSLETTER: February 2017

## PTA MEETING SUMMARY: Thursday, February 16th 7:00pm (rescheduled from 2/9)

The Meeting started at 7:05pm. PTA President Mary DePaolo welcomed all who attended the meeting, which included Principal Dr. Nicolas Cracco, PTA Treasurer Liz Villano, PTA secretary Cristy Barrios, PTA President Mary DePaolo, 2nd grade PTA teacher rep Ms. Ingram as well as dedicated parents. Thank you to everyone who came!

Dr. Cracco started the meeting and answered any questions in regard to the change in class schedules. His main reasons for the changes are making sure that all class schedules are in accordance of Board of Education regulations and allows all grade-level teachers to meet and be consistent in their teaching strategies-fostering an evenness and stability of teaching within the grades. He also talked about 3 main initiatives that that Barnard is starting. They are 1) forming Barnard's unique identity through the help of staff, administrators and parents, 2) building number sense and operations with mathematics word problems, and 3) using new strategies to help our students' reading comprehension skills.

Dr. Cracco concluded by talking about a possible 2nd grade trip to see an Italian opera. More info will be provided as the details are still under discussion.

PTA President Mary DePaolo spoke next about upcoming events in March, beginning with the school's spring fundraiser with World's Finest Chocolate, a family-owned and operated company that has been in business since 1949. PTA hopes that families as well as the community will participate in this fundraiser to help support many of our children's events and trips as the school year enters spring!

Also Barnard PTA will host its annual Spring Staff appreciation luncheon on March 6 for the entire staff and administration at Barnard. This sit-down catered luncheon is one small way of showing our deep appreciation for everything that our wonderful staff does.

Other upcoming events include Healthy Living Week, from March 12-17. On Friday March 17th PTA will be hosting a Sports Night where families are welcome to join and participate in various exercises fun for the whole family! Please look in your emails and children's backpacks for more information about this event! Donations of snacks and water will be needed as well!

Looking ahead our last upcoming March PTA event will be on March 31st, which will our PTA Bingo Night! Keep on the lookout for more info! Always an exciting night with raffles and prizes!

Both the Craft Drive for indoor recess as well as the Valentine's Day Dance were very successful. A big and heartfelt thank you to all who attended and or contributed to either of these events!

Mary concluded by stating that there will be no after school held at Barnard in the spring. Talks are continuing with district about how to keep our beloved teachers as after school instructors as our children love to be taught by them. Please continue to check back for updates and hopefully a conclusion will be met soon!

The meeting adjourned at 8:23pm. **Our next PTA meeting is Thursday, March 16th at 7:30pm.**

### **Organizers/Volunteers/Donations Needed ASAP!**

#### **-Sports night**

Friday March 17th, 6:30-8pm

#### **-Bingo Night**

Friday March 31st, 6:30-8pm

please contact: Mary at [syaama@yahoo.com](mailto:syaama@yahoo.com)

**Donations of snacks and water are also needed for both of these events!**

### **Congratulations!**

**Barnard collected over 4500 box tops!**

**Thank you for supporting our school and children!**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS At Barnard**

**March 3- Spirit Day!** Show your Barnard Spirit!

**6-** Half-Day Elementary, no Pre-K

**12-17-** Healthy Living Week

**16-** PTA Meeting, 7:30pm

**17-** Sports Night, 6:30-8pm

**20-** Spring Fundraiser Begins

**31-** Bingo Night, 6:30-8pm

**Get involved! Visit [barnardpta.org](http://barnardpta.org)!!!!**

