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TAG PTA Newsletter - June 2015

1 message

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Mon, Jun 1, 2015 at 7:23 PM

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DON'T MISS THIS IMPORTANT MEETING!

The final PTA meeting for the school year will be held on **Tuesday, June 2nd in the cafeteria**. Due to ongoing construction in the building, the meeting will start at 5:30pm!! It is imperative that we have enough attendees to meet quorum, as we'll be voting on the 2015 - 2016 PTA budget AND electing parents for next year's executive board. This is the meeting you can't miss!

COME TO THE END-OF-YEAR TRIP WITH TAG

Hurry! There are only 5 more seats left on the bus! Don't delay! Or you can drive yourself. Buy tickets [HERE!](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, June 2nd:
Grades 1-3 Spring
Concert @ 8:15am
(in auditorium)

Tuesday, June 2nd:

Summer Blast-Off Trip With TAG



Saturday, June 27th

ALL TAG Families & Friends are invited to a fun-filled day at
Holiday Hill
43 Candee Rd • Prospect, CT 06712 • Park Hours: 10am-5pm

Holiday Hill offers a variety of activities for ALL ages including:
 Swimming (in heated pools), Basketball, Rock Climbing, Kayaking, Pony Rides,
 Dancing, Volleyball, Hayrides, Mini Golf, Face Painting, & MORE!

Price options are available with AND without transportation:

With Transportation:	Without Transportation:
Adults (ages 12+) - \$80	Adults (ages 12+) - \$60
Kids (ages 3-11) - \$55	Kids (ages 3-11) - \$35
Toddlers (2 & under) - \$22	Toddlers (2 & under) - Free!

Includes:
 Bus to & from Holiday Hill (leaves @ 7:45am from TAG & departs Holiday Hill @ 5pm), breakfast, lunch, snacks (popcorn, ice cream), dinner, all sport activities, face painting, pony rides, pool admission, cotton candy

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 Breakfast, lunch, snacks (popcorn, ice cream), dinner, all sport activities, face painting, pony rides, pool admission, cotton candy

Space is limited! Buy your tickets at tagcholarspta.org by June 1st.
 \$3 adult drinks are available for purchase at Holiday Hill • Questions? Email TAG parent Natasha Davis at natavica230@hotmail.com

THERE'S STILL TIME TO NOMINATE!

The floor is still open to accept nominations for the 2015-2016 Executive Board positions that are coming up for election on Tuesday, June 2nd! Remember, the PTA cannot function (i.e. hire teacher assistants, write checks for enrichment programs, etc) unless the mandatory positions are filled. The available positions are:

- **(mandatory position)** PTA President or Co-Presidents
- **PTA Vice President or Co-Vice Presidents**
- **(mandatory position)** PTA Secretary or Co-Secretaries
- **(mandatory position)** PTA Treasurer or Co-Treasurers

PTA Mtg @ 5:30pm
(in cafeteria)

Thursday, June 4th:
Schools Closed
(Chancellor Day)

Tuesday, June 9th:
1/2 Day
(11:05a dismissal; Clerical Day)

**Friday, June 12th -
Sunday, June 14th:**
TAG @ Great Wolf
Lodge

Friday, June 12th:
Fundraising Mtg
@ 8am & 6pm
(in library)

Monday, June 15th:
1/2 Day
(11:05a dismissal; Clerical Day)

Thursday, June 18th:
Exec Bd Mtg @ 6pm
(in library)

Friday, June 19th:
Enrichment Mtg
@ 8am
(in library)

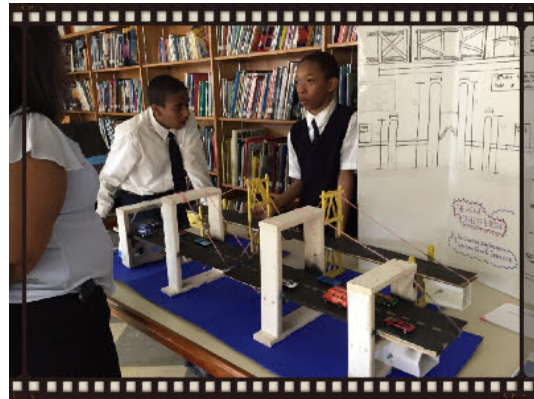
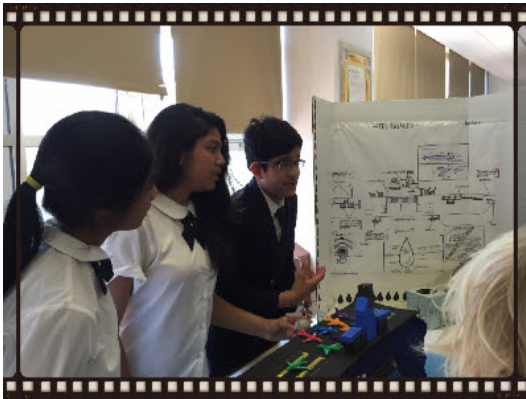
Tuesday, June 26th:
Last Day of School
(11:05a dismissal; Clerical Day)

Saturday, June 27th:
TAG @ tagcholarspta.org

To make your nomination, fill out the form [HERE](#) and leave it in the dropbox in Ms. Bruno's office or just come to the PTA meeting on June 2nd. Self-nominations are welcome!

6th GRADE INVENTORS

The 6th grade STEM engineering project fair was held on May 29th. As usual, TAG scholars did an amazing job! TAG 6th grader Journey Coates summed it up best: "Hardworking 6th graders displayed their inventions for all to see at the scientific fair they decided to put on. Their inventions were made by themselves using their own ideas, while proud parents look on." Here are just a few pictures of their work.



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PTA PRESIDENT

Dear TAG Families,

Just like last year (our first at TAG), I was totally blown away at the talent show a couple weeks back by what an exceptional bunch of kids my son is lucky enough to call his schoolmates. This is a proud parent speaking, of course, but it's hard to imagine there's any other community in NYC (or anywhere else on Earth, for that matter) that is quite so vibrant and multitalented as ours.

Tuesday is the final PTA meeting of the year. Please join us if you can and raise your hand and voice as we approve the 2015-2016 PTA budget and elect PTA officers for next year. And if you

have any availability at all, please consider running as an officer or co-officer, or nominating someone you think would be an amazing member of the PTA board.

Remember - YOU are the PTA. The people who run the committees and the events that add so much to our community (and that includes many of the people reading this) are all volunteer parents with busy lives. If you've got any time to spare and aren't already doing so, please consider joining us. We need you.

As we come to the close of another wonderful school year at TAG I wish every family and child a fun, intellectually stimulating, and productive summer.

All the best,

Jason Gots
TAG PTA President, 2014-2015

WELCOME PICNIC

It's that time of year again! New families have received acceptance letters to become part of our TAG family in the upcoming school year. The membership committee will again host a **Welcome Picnic** so new families can mingle with current TAG families and with each other. Please join us on **Saturday, June 20th at 12pm**. We will be providing food, beverages, & activities, so need a headcount. RSVP [HERE](#).



TAG's HEALTHY CARNIVAL

All TAG scholars and families are invited to the annual TAG Carnival. There will be rides, field games, Wii & PlayStation games, karaoke, snacks, and more! We are still confirming the date (since we'll have it when the other schools aren't in the building), but keep an eye out for details! Wristbands are \$13 (includes unlimited rides & stations, & a snack); individual tickets are \$2 each. The carnival will be held in the courtyard by the lunchroom from 9:30am - 4pm.



TAG's SCRUMPTIOUS CAFETERIA

Did you know that TAG'S cafeteria serves up to 800 meals a day? Thanks to food manager Chantal Hewlett, senior cook Marta Rivera, and assistant cook Symone Manning (pictured to the right) the cafeteria kitchen makes over 650 meals a day for all four schools in our building, and an additional 150 meals for an outside school.



The cafeteria staff prepares meals from the Department of Education high school lunch menu for all of the schools in the building, as well as Esperanza high school. The kitchen staff says this is a plus because there is a bigger variety of food and more options to choose from.

Each day a student gets to choose from a hot or cold meal, five different choices of sandwiches, fruit and a salad bar. Some examples of the main entrees that change daily are cheese stuffed shells, chicken tender rice bowl, pizza, BBQ chicken, meatball parmesan, Jamaican beef patty and Philly cheese steak sandwich. The drink choices are water, milk, and chocolate milk. The cafeteria cooks make sure that each student has at least one vegetable and a fruit on their plate. Symone Manning says, "It is important that the students get a balanced meal because we are responsible for not only feeding their bodies but their minds as well."

What's the most popular food item? Well it's not hard to guess pizza with BBQ chicken coming in a close second. French Fries are another big hit with the students. The kitchen staff is quick to say that TAG students overall are very good eaters and are always asking for more healthy choices.

Just this year the New York Department of Education partnered with the Department of Sanitation and implemented a composting program where every school has a brown bin where students can put their leftover food. The cooks make sure all of the students separate their trash and deposit their food into the composting bins. Once the Department of Sanitation picks up the composting they then turn it into Diesel fuel for their vehicles.

Another environmental challenge the Department of Education would like to address is the use of Styrofoam trays that are used to carry the food. These trays are not reusable so the idea is to find an alternative tray that is recyclable and is better for the environment. The cafeteria staff says this change can possibly be sped up if the PTA contacts the Department of Education or the district to encourage this change.

The staff is open to suggestions whether it is making the trays more environmentally friendly or different food options. The kitchen staff believes they are there to serve the students and

whatever makes them have a better eating experience they are all for it.

**Brought to you by the PTA Wellness Sub-Committee*

FUNDRAISING BRINGS IN OVER \$133,000!!

April's Annual Silent Auction was yet another success for the fundraising committee. The event was a ton of fun and brought in over \$21,000, the most raised by an auction thus far. The auction combined with all the other fundraising events and the \$11,500 brought in by the grant sub-committee, have raised the total brought in to over \$133,000 this year. We've surpassed the \$120,000 goal. Kudos to all those on the team whose time and efforts helped make this possible!

PRINCIPAL FOR THE DAY

Congratulations to Joshua Liu (K-112), who's parents won him the Principal For the Day item at this year's auction!

Missed the auction but still want in on the fun? Be on the lookout for the remaining auction items that will be sold on the PTA website. Items should be posted the week of June 1st.



MT SINAI & NURSE MELTZER KEEP TAG HEALTHY!

The Mount Sinai School Based Health Center (SBHC) at the Tito Puente Education complex is a full service health clinic whose services are available to every student with in the school community once they are registered. It's full time staff are Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Elyse Meltzer (pictured to the left); Medical Assistant, Juanita Gonzalez; and social worker, Karen Ciego. The SBHC is partially supported by state aid. There is no charge for the services, or co-pays, and the clinic can be utilized in addition to, or as your primary care. All children will be seen regardless of whether or not they have health insurance or who their carrier is.

Ms. Meltzer has been at the SBHC for 13 years. She and Juanita meet nearly every TAG student throughout the school year. Students come to the clinic for everything including playground injuries, acute sick visits, physicals, vaccines (flu as well as others), and chronic conditions (diabetes, asthma). Parents can bring their children directly to the clinic or call and ask for their child to be seen if they aren't feeling well or have a concern. As a nurse practitioner, Ms Meltzer can write prescriptions as warranted. The clinic staff works closely with school faculty as needed such as helping a student who is having adjustment difficulties or collaborating with the

gym teacher to identify asthmatic students before the annual PACER test.

Ms. Meltzer strives to have open communication with the entire TAG community. One of her goals is to have 95% of the TAG population register with the SBHC by submitting the parental consent packet. If your child has had a recent physical at an outside provider they would greatly appreciate a copy annually, so they can be in compliance with the SBH mission to ensure that all children are receiving health care. The Mount Sinai SBHC is located on the first floor in Room 107. It is open on school days from 8:30A to 3P. Please stop by or call [212-360-7390](tel:212-360-7390) if you have any questions or to introduce yourself.

**Brought to you by the PTA Wellness Sub-Committee*

Have feedback or an event/ article you'd like included in the monthly newsletter or the weekly digest? Email it to: communications@tagscholarspta.org

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