



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

While the PTA is primarily an advocacy organization, what we're best known for in Tuckahoe is our commitment to fun. That's because fun is one of the things we advocate for! Our kids work hard all year and have endured added challenges these past two years. We're strongly committed to spreading joy. Read on for how we've been doing that recently.

This is the final edition of the PTA newsletter for the 2021-22 school year. We hope this has been a helpful resource to you.

My term as PTA president concludes this month. I'm extremely grateful to the 60+ Board members per year that I've been lucky enough to work with since I started in 2020, and I'm thrilled to hand the reins over to Peggy Angello for the next two years.

Enjoy the rest of the school year and have a great summer!

Best,  
Susan Miele, PTA President

## Notable Dates

### Cottle In-Person BINGO

June 23

### 8th-Grade Color Wars

June 23

### 8th-Grade Graduation Decorations & Refreshments

June 23

### Deadline to Order Cottle School Supplies

July 8



## Inside the Issue

### BUILDING BRIDGES

Cottle students got to learn what it's like to live with different abilities, such as OCD, blindness, and other challenges.

### JUST DANCE

The PTA Dance recital was back in person for the first time in two years, and what a success it was!

### GOOD TIMES

It's been an amazing Spring! Continue reading for recaps and photos of some fabulous events!

## TEACHER/STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK CELEBRATING TEACHERS AND STAFF

Our Community & School Relations Committee, chaired by **Cindy Frank** and **Gina Lee**, delivered much joy to TUFSD staff with their rollout of a catered lunch, snacks in the break rooms, and daily gratitude prompts that went out to families. Nurse Appreciation Day and Administrative Professionals Day were also celebrated with gifts of plants for the offices.



## 'FUN'DRAISERS AT COTTLE COTTLE BOUTIQUE AND BOOK FAIR

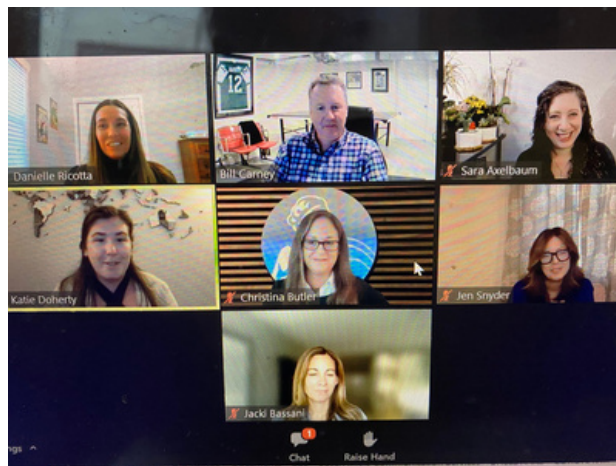
Thank you to everyone who supported the PTA's Book Fair and Spring Boutique events in May! Cottle Cubs were given the opportunity to select and purchase books for themselves and gifts for Mother's Day and Father's Day at these events. A portion of sales went towards supporting the PTA. We're grateful to the Ways & Means team—**Natalia Vivas**, **Nathan Jackman**, **Alyssia Reilly**, **Mandy Galati**, and **Annmarie Biggs**—that organized these and the many volunteers who manned the sales.



HS CAREER PANEL

“WHAT IT’S LIKE TO WORK IN BUSINESS”

On May 19, THS students got to hear from six district residents who work in business—including a recent Tuckahoe graduate—including what their path has been, how they got there, what they like about their jobs, and more. This was the fourth installment of the virtual career-panel series, with previous topics focusing on careers in the arts, healthcare, and trades. Thanks to High School Committee co-chairs Beth Ann Silvestri and Jen Snyder and the inspiring moms and dads who volunteered their time to talk to our students. An archive recording can be accessed at www.tuckahoepta.com.



PTA DANCE

IN PERSON DANCE RECITAL SUCCESS!

Decked out in fancy costumes and stylized hairdos, 150 children danced their hearts out at the PTA Dance recital on May 22. A great representation of the PTA’s commitment to all children, the dance program welcomes anyone in grade K-12 who wants to participate. It takes a year of effort on the organizers part, with thanks owed to committee co-chairs Dawn Attwood and Danielle DeCuio, with invaluable assistance from all the dance chaperones and even past committee chairs. Instructor Lauren Gualdino taught every class, choreographed every move, and ordered every costume.



**BUILDING BRIDGES****THS STUDENTS TEACH COTTLE CUBS ABOUT DIFFERENT ABILITIES**

Through various workshops held the week of May 9, students got to learn what it's like to live with different abilities, such as OCD, blindness, and other challenges. At the grand finale, a panel of THS students sat on stage and discussed their different abilities with 5th graders. Not only were these students very generous, but the comments they made underscored both the excellence of our district and the caliber of PTA programming. A 5th-grader asked the panel if they felt that other kids treat them differently because of their conditions; all five panelists thought carefully and said no. And when asked by the moderator, "What would you say to your 5th-grade self if you could?" one senior boy said, "Trust your teachers. They want you to succeed. Go to them for help. Ask them questions. They want you to succeed." This inspiring program was presented by the Student Support Committee—**Aimee Hoffman, Katie Petruziello, Shea Scanlon Lomma, and Giulia Frasca**—and could not have been made possible without the help of the many volunteers who visited the classrooms to lend support.

**PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND STAFF NIGHT OUT HELD MAY 13**

Thanks to **Amber Kasses** and **Christine Sanzillo** for pivoting from planning the PTA Spring Social to conceiving and implementing the all-new Parents, Teachers, and Staff Night Out at Broken Bow Brewery. This casual social event brought family and school staff together in person. With less emphasis on fundraising, we made it more about fun-raising and PTA membership-boosting. Many local businesses generously donated raffle prizes, and Broken Bow offered some profit-sharing to the PTA. Thanks to **Megan O'Keefe** and **Michele Fret** for heading up the PTA Membership Committee and for the volunteers who helped out at the event, including **Annmarie Biggs** and **Natalia Vivas**, whose oversight as co-chairs of the Ways & Means Committee has been instrumental all year!

## FIELD DAY FUN

The beloved Cottle Field Day returned on June 3, with a day of fun in the sun for all students in grades K-5. Wearing Field Day shirts provided by the PTA, children rotated through multiple activity stations, like tug of war, the homerun derby, a bouncy house, and more, with DJ music providing extra fun. New this year: barbecue lunch! Thanks to **Leah VanDeloo**, **Paul Daligan**, the Cottle staff and faculty, and the many volunteers who attended.



EVENT WRAP UP:

# FIFTH GRADE LUAU WAS A 'HULA'TA FUN!

Cottle's graduating fifth grade class had a ball at the Luau on Friday, June 10. They enjoyed pizza, crafts, dancing - including the traditional LIMBO - and more. A huge shout out to Room Rep Co-Chairs Alona Trinidad and Tracy Devitt for their hard work in pulling the luau - and so many other events - together this year. Thank you also to all of the parents who volunteered, baked brownies or donated food and funds to make this event a resounding success!



## BINGO AT COTTLE!

The Tuckahoe PTA invites all Cottle Cubs to join Mr. Morash and Mr. Kilgallen for in-person Bingo!

Thursday, June 23, 2022  
5 - 6 pm  
Cottle Cafeteria & Gym

No sign up needed.  
At least 1 chaperone per 4 students please.

Questions? Please email [cottlecommittee@gmail.com](mailto:cottlecommittee@gmail.com)



★ Fun Games Friends Prizes & More! ★

## PTA GRANTS SCHOLARSHIPS TO 6 SENIORS

The Tuckahoe PTA is pleased to announce this year's scholarship award winners:

Jared Boyer – Northeastern University  
Owen Butler – University of Florida  
Abigail Luca – Syracuse University  
Nicolas Pagnotta – Northeastern University  
Nora Podoll - Drexel University  
Steven Zimmerman – Florida Institute of Technology



Each student received \$1,000 for their college tuition. Thank you to scholarship co-chairs Lisa Drake and Sarah Noyes.



## GIRLS ON THE RUN

After 20 lessons over 10 weeks, the Cottle and TMS Girls on the Run team ran the regional 5K in Rockland State Park on June 4. Both girls and volunteer parent coaches were inspired by this program, which promoted both girl power and running. Thanks to the PTA Health & Safety Committee for organizing this program! We're proud of all the girls who participated and grateful to the awesome coaches who made this program possible.

## SUPPORT THE PTA

## ORDER YOUR SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Cottle Elementary and the Tuckahoe PTA are again working with A. Hartz Pack to School, a division of Value Drugs, to offer you the option of ordering 2022-2023 school supply packets online! This hassle-free program saves you time and money and guarantees that your child(ren) will have all the teacher-approved school supplies needed for the new school year. Plus, the Tuckahoe PTA receives a portion of the proceeds from each packet sold!

To order your packet(s), go to the website below and select your school district, school and grade(s). It's that easy!

There is no obligation to purchase school supplies through this program; it is offered as a convenience to families. To order, click [here](#).



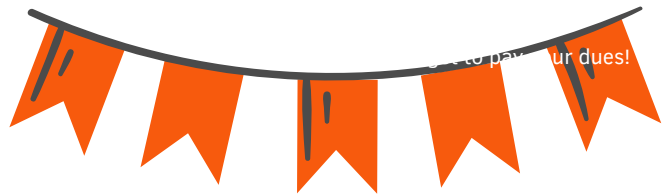
**DEADLINE IS  
JULY 8TH**

**SUCH A BUSY MONTH:  
REMAINING JUNE PROGRAMS**



Date	Event	PTA Committee Leading
Tue 6/21	UPK Graduation decorations and refreshments	Welcoming Committee
Tue 6/21	THS Graduation support	High School Committee
Wed 6/22	K and 5th-Grade Graduation Decorations	Room Rep Committee
Wed 6/23	In-Person Bingo with the WEC Principals	Cottle Committee
Thu 6/23	8th-Grade Color Wars Ice Cream for Grades 6-8	Middle School Committee
Thu 6/23	8th-Grade Graduation Decorations and Refreshments	Middle School Committee

**OTHER PROGRAMS**



- Senior Banners – Graduating seniors will be celebrated with personalized banners along the school fence that each graduate can take home. Provided courtesy of the PTA High School Committee
- TMS 2022 T-Shirts are being ordered for all students in grades 6-8, courtesy of the PTA Middle School Committee
- Teacher/Staff Retirement – A donation of \$200 will be given from the Community and School Relations Committee towards the purchase of a professional learning library in honor of the eight retiring TUFSD staff.
- WEC Yearbook – Huge shoutout to Yearbook Committee co-chairs **Joann Colbert** and **Joyce Arana** for their hard work year-round on organizing school pictures and the Cottle yearbook. Books will be distributed the last week of school.





## LASTLY:

# SHOUT-OUT TO PTA OFFICERS, ADVISORS, & COMMUNICATIONS GURUS

Those who don't usually get boldface recognition in the newsletter but should:

- Amy Shaw – Vice President
- Ali Koutsis - Treasurer
- Allison Halloran – Corresponding Secretary and trusted advisor
- Jenny Kindberg – Recording Secretary
- Kristen Kirkpatrick and Tina Gongsakdi – Communications Committee Co-Chairs, responsible for every email blast, social-media post, and newsletter issue.
- Tara Zegers – Past president, who continues to provide guidance and legal review

# Thank you!

## SEE YOU NEXT YEAR

FROM THE  
21-22 TUCKAHOE PTA



### JOIN THE PTA

Don't forget to pay your dues!


<https://tuckahoepta.memberhub.store/>

### GET EMAIL UPDATES


Get email updates with SchoolBee.


<https://schoolbee.com/tuckahoe/organization/tuckahoe-pta/>

### CONNECT WITH US

 [presidenttuckahoepta@gmail.com](mailto:presidenttuckahoepta@gmail.com)

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