



PORT CHESTER TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

***"Strength Through Unity"***

**PCTA Newsletter**  
**Fall 2025-September/October**  
**Volume II Issue I**



## President's Message



Dear PCTA,

I hope you all had a great start to the 2025-2026 school year. As we begin our second year with our PCTA Newsletters, our communication and updates for our members are a priority as we continue to build our association.

A few reminders as we enter October. Our goals this year are simple:

- 1- Be Good to Each Other!
- 2- Continue: growing our communication with our members. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your building representatives.
- 3- Education: please join us at our General Membership meetings and sign up to attend one board of education meeting this year. Understanding what is happening both in our Union and District is important for our members to be a part of. *November 17th, 2025 & March 24th, 2026* are the dates for our next two upcoming PCTA General Membership meetings. See your building representatives to sign up for the Board of Education.

## Who's Who in the PCTA



PCTA POSITION	NAME	PCTA EMAIL
President	Chris Kazim	pctapresidentckazim@gmail.com
Grievance/VP	Karla Purcell	pctagrievance@gmail.com
Elementary VP	Clara Barreto	pctavpelementarycb@gmail.com
Middle School VP	Jessica Goldstein	pctavppms@gmail.com
High School VP	Renee Aubry	pctarephsaubry@gmail.com
Secretary	Heather Rinello	pctasecretary@gmail.com
Solidarity	Samantha Calvert	solidaritypcta@gmail.com
Health & Safety	Melissa Coletti	pctarepcolletti@gmail.com
APPR	Rosa Pena	pctavpapprpena@gmail.com
Treasurer	Mike Desharnais	pctavptreasurer@gmail.com
JFK Building Rep	Jessica Michaca	pctarepjfmichaca@gmailcom
JFK Building Rep	Jaimi Kennedy	pctarepJFKKennedy@gmail.com
JFK Building Rep	Jamie Rubino	pctarepjfkrubino@gmail.com
KSS Building Rep	Erin Rumore	pctarepkingrumore@gmail.com
KSS Building Rep	Danielle Ferraro	pctarepkingferraro@gmail.com
TAE Building Rep	Kelly Budde	pctabuddetaerep@gmail.com
TAE Building Rep	Carmen McStay	pctamcstaytaerep@gmail.com
PAS Building Rep	Idia Saldana	pctareapParkSaldana2@gmail.com
PAS Building Rep	Vanessa Mojica	pctarepPARKmojica@gmail.com
PCMS Building Rep	Chris Halstead	
PCMS Building Rep	Juanita Mitchell	pctarepmitchell@gmail.com
PCMS Building Rep	Regina Shaw	
PCHS Building Rep	Eric Torruella	pctarephstorruella@gmail.com
PCHS Building Rep	Emily Macchia	pctarephsmacchia@gmail.com
PCHS Building Rep	Anthony PIro	pctarephspiro@gmail.com

## APPR

Read this important

## APPR/Observation presentation!

### Observation Timeline for Probationary Teachers:

1st, 2nd, and 3rd year of Probation:

- 1st Observation- by Nov 30th
- 2nd&3rd Observation- by Feb 28th
- 4th Observation- by April 30th

Final year of probation:

- 1st by Oct 31st
- 2nd & 3rd by Dec 15th
- 4th by Feb 21st

Rosa Pena the VP of APPR for the PCTA will be hosting a virtual **Q&A session about the presentation on Tuesday October 7th from 3:10-3:45pm**. A Google Calendar invite on the morning of the meeting.

### Observation Timeline for Tenured Teachers:

Two Observations

- One Announced 30-45 minutes max
- One Unannounced (in a one-month window with notification ahead; 15-20 mins max)

Last observation no later than May 1

Domain 4 Due May 8th

Evaluation Due June 15

Any questions regarding APPR contact Rosa at [PCTAVPAPPRPena@gmail.com](mailto:PCTAVPAPPRPena@gmail.com)



## 1 Hour PD Dates



Save the follow dates for 1 hour district wide professional development sessions held afterschool. Be on the look out for more specific details as the dates approach.

October 21, 2025  
January 27th, 2026  
April 14th, 2026



Join the **PCTA** along with many of our  
*Student-Athletes & Coaches* at the:

**American Cancer Society**  
**Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk!**

This event is a celebration of courage and hope, a movement uniting communities to end breast cancer as we know it, for everyone. Making Strides is the nation's largest and most impactful breast cancer fundraiser walk.

Can't make it? [Donate here!](#) We are almost halfway to our goal!



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER  
19, 2025**

09:00 AM to Noon

**MANHATTANVILLE  
UNIVERSITY**

2900 Purchase Street  
Purchase, NY

**Sign up  
HERE**

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## Community Event

The PCTA will be attending Port Chester's Halloween in the Park event! We will be distributing books from the First Book Organization. We look forward to seeing lots of our members!



**FREE**

**Halloween**

**in the Park**

**TUESDAY, OCT 28**

RAIN DATE: WEDNESDAY, OCT 29

LYON PARK; CHILDREN UP TO 10 YEARS OLD

COSTUME CONTEST 5:30-6PM   CANDY GIVEAWAY 6-7PM   GLOW IN THE DARK BUBBLES 6-8PM   HAUNTED MAZE 6-8PM

AND MORE!!

*New Category: Most Patriotic Costume*

## Health & Safety



The Health & Safety team (thank you, Kathleen Farley) has created the PCTA Membership Reporting Process. This will help accurately document any issues.

- First Step: PCTA Member brings up the issue to the appropriate person to resolve the problem
- Next Step: If the situation hasn't been resolved, the PCTA Member should address the issue with their building administrator
- Final Step: If the situation still has not been resolved, the PCTA Member should document the problem on the Google Form to assist in solving the situation
  - Your building level PCTA Health and Safety Representative will then reach

out to the administration for assistance in solving the problem

*If there is anything EMERGENT (water coming through the ceiling in your room or you have no heat) please contact your building administration immediately. Then, please use this form to notify your Health & Safety Representative via this form to document the issue.*

2025-2026 Health & Safety PCTA  
Member Reporting Form Links by Building

Edison

[\*\*2025-2026 Health & Safety PCTA Member Reporting Form: Edison\*\*](#)

JFK

[\*\*2025-2026 Health & Safety PCTA Member Reporting Form: JFK\*\*](#)

King Street

[\*\*2025-2026 Health & Safety PCTA Member Reporting Form: King Street\*\*](#)

Park Avenue

[\*\*2025-2026 Health & Safety PCTA Member Reporting Form: Park Avenue\*\*](#)

PCHS

[\*\*2025-2026 Health & Safety PCTA Member Reporting Form: PCHS\*\*](#)

PCMS

[\*\*2025-2026 Health & Safety PCTA Member Reporting Form: PCMS\*\*](#)

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## Fix Tier 6

Wear your fix Tier 6 T-Shirt every 6th of the month to  
show solidarity for this movement!

Tier inequities impacts us all!



Check out [\*\*this website\*\*](#) to learn more about Fix Tier 6!

SAVE THE DATE  
March 8th, 2026  
Fix Tier 6 Rally in Albany NY





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## Welcome Back to School Party



Over 100 PCTA members attended our Back to School Party held at T & J Restaurant! We

enjoyed delicious food, fun music, and were able to socialize with colleagues from across the district.

We also held a 50/50 raffle. Congratulations to our winner, Idia Saldana and a huge thank you to everyone who purchased tickets.

**We raised \$132 for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer!**





[\*\*SHOP HERE\*\*](#) to purchase some swag & represent the PCTA

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## **NYSUT President Melinda Person Visits PCHS & Park Ave!**

Last week NYSUT President Melinda Person visited Port Chester School District. During the visit the PCTA was able to highlight some of the great work our teachers are doing. The visit included classroom visits throughout Park Ave School and a visit to our Grow Your Program at PCHS, to visit 11th graders who are interested in pursuing education as a career option.











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# MEMBER BENEFITS

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# nysut

Working to Benefit You

Did you know we are eligible for benefits such as legal/financial counseling, life insurance, shopping & travel discounts and much more through NYSUT?

Explore the [NYSUT website](#) to learn more!

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## The Teacher Center of Central Westchester

Do you need additional in-service credits?

**The Teacher Center of Central Westchester** offers FREE, virtual classes for our

members. [Visit their website](#) to register easily on frontline for highly engaging classes. You may even take a class taught by some of our very own Port Chester Teachers!

## New PCTA Website is coming soon!



- October 19th- Making Strides Breast Cancer Walk
- October 21st--1 Hour District PD
- October 28th--Halloween in the Park
- November 4th--Superintendent's Conference Day
- November 17th--PCTA General Membership Meeting

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