

Spring Glen School PTA Public Meeting
May 7, 2026
5:30pm, Spring Glen Elementary Library

Agenda

Call to order & welcome

Reports

1. Principal's report
2. Sixth-grade report

New business

- Vote to adopt new PTA bylaws
- Discussion with Board of Education liaison Peter Downhour
- Proposed 2026-2027 spending plan
- Spring Book Fair debrief
- Upcoming events:
 - 5K - Sunday, May 17, 2026
 - Camp Out (May 24, 2026) + Outdoor Committee events
 - School play

Open discussion

Present: Allison Dickin, Josh Groffman, Melissa Whitson, Tim Trama, Bridget Siegert, Chloe O'Connell Ngov, Howard Hornreich, Peter Downhour, Jeff Saerys-Foy, Heather Strycharz, Brendan Woo, Susan Dorman, Kevin Flannagan

Principal's Report

Teacher Appreciation Week, thanks to PTA for the food truck
First grade just had their town meeting
Jazz Haven group is coming in June
Friday, June 12th, 6 Grade promotion

6th Grade Report

Book drive was very successful. 4,000 books total
Kids Night Out and Car Wash coming up
Very good year for fundraising
Fishing and hiking in Chatfield Hollow
NYC trip is coming up, relate it to the immigration unit

Field Day is day after NYC trip

Bylaws Vote

Moved by Tim Trama

Seconded by Melissa Whitson

New bylaws were voted on and approved with unanimous approval

Peter Downhour Visit

Peter is a teacher in Region 5 (Woodbridge/Orange/Bethany). Every board member gets to choose a liaison school, one they have a closer relationship with. Ideally he'd know issues regarding Spring Glen before BOE meetings. Board is focusing more on a renovation cycle for schools.

Susan Dorfman brought up the outdoor programs here and enquired as to how get more insight into what other schools/PTAs are doing.

Bridget wanted more information about the BOE budget.

Base foundation calculations have not been updated since 2013 and have not kept up with inflation. The money that the town receives from the state is \$43 million, \$23 goes to the town and is used at their discretion, \$19 million (alliance district) HAS to go to the BOE (alliance districts are identified as underperforming). 1.7million additional funding

34 positions were eliminated (many were not returning)

Downhour is hoping that any positions that must be eliminated would be empty positions or retiring positions

There were no other bids besides First Student

How can we support the BOE in the budget request

Town legislative council is who sets the budget

Superintendent > BOE Finance Committee > Mayor and Legislative Council > Mayor will submit their budget > Legislative Council set the actual dollar amount

Other money that goes to the schools: Title 1, Title 2, IDA (special ed), excessive costs (special ed)