

# PTA News

## March 2020 Spotlight

Our Spotlight this month features  
Sarah Tracy, Second Grade Teacher



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### PTA Meeting

Wednesday, March 4 at 3:15 pm

◆ Child Care during PTA meetings ◆  
Just send your child in with a note

#### Cash Calendar Drawings

March 1 – April 20

#### Drama Project at FRRSD

March 6, 9, 13, 16, 24, 27, 31, 3:15-5pm  
This project is made possible with MCC  
funding, from Otis CC and Sandisfield CC.



#### Half Days

March 20 & April 10

#### Berkshire Earth Expo

April 4, 11am-4pm, Berkshire Museum

**FRRSD**  
**PTA**  
*everychild, one voice.*

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**✉** Welcoming your comments and ideas!  
Get in touch at PTA@FRRSD.org  
**WWW** See more online at FRRSD.org/PTA

#### Can you share a bit of background about yourself?

I live in Pittsfield with my husband Josh and our two-year-old daughter Lilly. We have two cats, Tony and Brooke and just added a puppy to our family this past summer. Her name is June and she is a golden doodle.

#### What was your job before coming to Farmington River?

Before working at Farmington I was a full-time nanny for a family in Lenox. In high school, I waitressed at a diner while also babysitting as much as I could. I knew that I would be best suited in a job that is focused on children.

#### What are your hobbies, or what do you enjoy doing on your time off?

I enjoy reading, shopping, and spending time with my family during my off time. We often make small trips over the weekends to do fun things with our daughter. We also frequently visit the dog park so our new puppy can visit with some of her friends too!

#### What is your job at Farmington River and what does it entail?

I am the second grade teacher so I am responsible for teaching all my students math, ELA (English Language Arts), writing, science, and social studies. I am also focused on making sure the students have healthy and strong connections with one another, as well as with staff in the building. In my class we focus on classroom community and respecting one another and the space we are in. We have a morning meeting every day, take a movement/mediation

break in the morning, and generally check in with each other to make sure everyone is where they need to be to do their best work.

#### Can you tell us how you feel about working at Farmington River and what your goals are in your position?

I am very fortunate to be working at Farmington River. It is such a unique school in the sense that everyone knows everyone and the teachers have an opportunity to give students the one-on-one attention they need. My goal as a teacher is to make every student feel heard and understood. I want to give them a supportive environment to grow in, both academically and socially.

#### What's your favorite part of the day?

My favorite part of the day is our morning meeting. We do the same routine every day and it is a great way to get everyone together before heading off to do work. It starts with a greeting, then we read a message that gives the students an overview of the day lastly we do a quick team building activity. Students can also ask questions about upcoming events or the schedule, they can share something that is exciting or new that is happening at home. It is just a nice time to come together and all get on the same page.

#### What sort of message do you want to give to children and parents?

I would want the students and parents to know that we are here to help their child however we can. We are all on the same team and we want to work with you to get your child to meet their goals.

## ◆ GENERAL PTA UPDATES ◆

### **TUBING TRIP RECAP**

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual PTA tubing adventure at Butternut was a great time for all! The PTA provided tubing passes for all family members, as well as hot cocoa and s'mores. We hope you can join us again next year for this fun family event!

### **CASH CALENDAR REPORT**

Thank you to everyone who sold Cash Calendars! Your efforts will allow us to fund Field Day, the Ski Program, tubing, new playground equipment and so much more. Drawings will be held March 1- April 20 with winners notified by phone and posted on frisd.org. Good luck!

### **CONSERVATION PROJECT**

In an effort to reduce single-use plastic waste in the school cafeteria, Ener-G-save and the Harold Grinspoon Charitable Foundation have awarded the Student Council and PTA a grant to purchase a set of reusable utensils, in a case, for grades 3-6 at Farmington River. The idea is for students to bring their utensils to school each day and then back home for washing. (If students forget or lose their utensils, backup disposable ones will be available.) Look for the sets to come home after break with a detailed letter to parents. This conservation project will be featured at the Berkshire Earth Expo at Berkshire Museum in Pittsfield on Saturday, April 4, from 11am to 4pm and we invite you and your family to attend.



*“Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood.” – Marie Curie*



◆ **Collect Box Tops!** If your package has a traditional Box Tops clip, cut it off and send it to the school, making sure it has a valid expiration date. If your package has a new SCAN label, there's no need to clip: just use the NEW Box Tops app to scan your store receipt within 14 days of purchase. The app will find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online. See [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) for more information.



◆ **Amazon Smile purchases help us earn money!** Simply visit <https://smile.amazon.com> and log into your Amazon account. You can select **Farmington River Elementary School** as your charitable organization, and Amazon will then donate .5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to us! AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know: same products, same prices, same service.



◆ **Price Chopper Tools for Schools:** This program allows you to earn points to help our school get needed equipment, such as school supplies, musical instruments, and playground equipment. Our school code is 14062. Simply sign up at the store, or visit: [www.pricechopper.com](http://www.pricechopper.com)



◆ **Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards** offers customers the opportunity to be rewarded by earning money for their designated school! Our school code is 05619.