March 17, 2025

To the parents/guardians of students in grade 8,

At The Petrides School, it has been our tradition to celebrate the hard work and accomplishments of our 8th grade students in a very special and unique way. I would like to take this opportunity to give you some information about these events. This notice is to allow you time to reserve calendar dates and arrange a payment plan. It is also time to revisit our Middle School Behavior contract with your child to ensure they understand behavioral and academic expectations. It is my hope that all students participate in these events.

On **May 28, 2025**, we will be going to The Rocking Horse Ranch. The Rocking Horse Ranch is an all inclusive resort. Some of the activities they offer are: HorseBack riding, Mountain tubing, bungee jumping, rock wall climbing, banana boat rides, paddle boating, canoeing, fishing and much more. There are two pools (indoor and outdoor) as well as water slides. The students will enjoy an outdoor BBQ lunch upon arrival and a buffet dinner to conclude our stay. You can take a look by googling [www.rockinghorseranch.com](http://www.rockinghorseranch.com). **The cost of the trip is $232.** A separate trip permission slip was distributed to your child in December. There is still time to return the permission slip but, SEATS ARE LIMITED. I have attached another slip for your convenience. Please send permission slips and payment as soon as possible to reserve your seat.

On **June 16, 2025** from 7:00 pm until 10:00 pm, the students are invited to our 8th grade Dinner Dance at The Staaten Catering Hall. (An invitation will be forthcoming.) This is a semi-formal event, which includes dinner, DJ, photo favors, party favors, and refreshments. Transportation to and from this event is the responsibility of the parent. (No limousines, please!) Parents must park and enter the restaurant for drop off and pick up. **Parents are asked to sign their child in and out of the event.**

On **June 24, 2025** at 9:00 am, is our 8th grade Final Assembly. There is ample seating therefore each student can invite up to 6 guests. An invitation will be forthcoming. Students should wear semi formal dress, as we do not wear caps and gowns at this ceremony. A photographer will be on site to take a photo of each student as they receive their certificate of completion. Following the assembly is a reception for students, parents, families and teachers. Students will be receiving a gift bag with T-Shirt, pajama pants and small gifts. If you would like to bring more than 6 guests, please email me at your earliest convenience so that we can make accommodations.

The students will be receiving their Petrides memory/autograph book in June. We will be hosting a memory book signing party during the month of June.

The cost of the dinner dance, autograph book party, t-shirt, PJ pants, memorabilia and final assembly were built into the 8th grade dues. **The cost of the 8th grade dues are $200.** Please send payment to Ms. Pat Harrigan in Room B215 on or before **June 2, 2025.**

Attached you will find a student behavior contract and consent form. **Student behavior contract must be signed and returned immediately.** Please review the behavior contact closely as a family. Failure to adhere to this contract will result in exclusion from end of year activities. **Also, failure to pass the four core subject classes will result in exclusion from the Final Assembly. Students must return these forms in order to participate in end of year activities.**

If you have any questions, regarding end of year events, feel free to contact me at BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov.

Sincerely,

Ms. Bettyann Souffrin Assistant Principal, grades 5 – 8

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