



A Sweet Alternative To "Valentine's Ball" February 12th At Lincoln School

C OVID-19 concerns and restrictions have nixed or altered lots of extra-curricular activities in the Newark Central School District this last year.

But Lincoln School PTA, that dreamed up the wonderful Lincoln School "Valentine's Ball" nine years ago that Pre-K through second grade girls and boys ___ many dressed up in fancy, semi-formal attire ___ and their Moms, Dads, siblings and other extended family members have annually flocked to on wintry February nights, was just was not willing to let it go completely this year.

"Our 'Valentine's Ball' is an event everyone enjoys each year and we want to keep as much of it as we can alive until we can do it again," Stephanie Joyce, Lincoln School Pre-K teacher and PTA member said.

So, the school's PTA planned a modified event at the school February 12th, the day before the week-long February break, that they are calling the "Valentine Snow Ball." Students and staff are being urged to wear "Valentine's Day" colors that day.

It will feature: Kyle Blied, NCSD AV and Social Media Coordinator will videotape



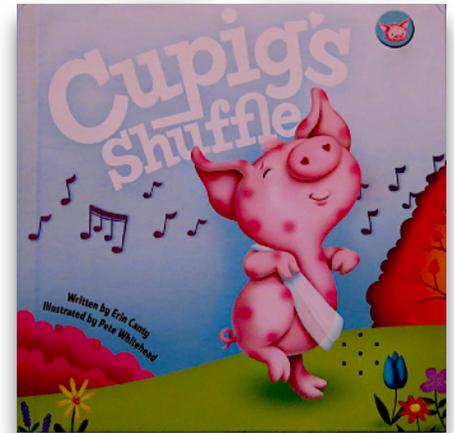
each class in the school performing the "Cupig Shuffle."

To prepare them for filming Joyce asked music teacher Libby Brozik to teach Pre-K children the song and dance in their classes and review it with Kindergarten, first and second graders who've learned it in previous years.

Learning the "Cupig Shuffle" line dance and reading the popular anti-bullying and spreading the love in song and dance-themed children's book by Erin Canty has been an integral prelude to and part of the dancing in the gymnasium in recent years at the annual "Valentine's Ball."

Joyce also produced a Power Point and YouTube video in which she reads "The Cupig's Shuffle" <https://youtu.be/OtChSvL4SU4> that

was recently shared with families of all Lincoln School students; a video of she and her teacher assistant Terry Keifer dancing the "Cupig Shuffle" with their Pre-K students https://youtu.be/qrAz-Y__ytU4; and Joyce also sent a power point home to parents containing just pages of the book, without her voice-over, so parents may read the book to their children.





- Also in keeping with the theme of the book, Kindness arrows, with compliments or kind messages on them, written by students and others, will be posted in the hallways "so everyone can spread the love around Lincoln School," Joyce said.

- All students and staff will be given a Valentine-themed decorated sugar cookie made by Erie Shore Landing in Newark that were purchased by the PTA. Joyce said the cookies will likely be distributed during the individual classroom Valentine's Day parties.

- The annual Winter Fun Day event is being incorporated into the activities Feb. 12th with every class taking turns going outside for time for sledding and playing in the snow.

