

PTA General Meeting Minutes

Friday 9.20.24

8:45 AM In Person Auditorium

Meeting began at: 8:50 AM

Meeting ended at: 9:55 AM

Next PTA Meeting is: Thursday October 17th 6:30pm on Zoom

Present:

- School Staff: Dr. Fagin, Dawn Pender, Halee Hochman, Janet Cavanagh, Marie Isner
- PTA Co-Presidents: Mary & Mariam
- PTA Co-Treasurers: Raul & Rachel M
- PTA Co-Communications: Josh (*not present*) & Anna
- PTA Co-Fundraising: Hana & Megan & Ali
- PTA Co- Secretary: Rachel K & Dana (*not present*)
- PTA Co-Class Parent: Blair & Christina

Executive Board Meeting Agenda 9/20

- Copresidents report
- Principal's Report
- After School Update
- Treasurer's Report
- Fundraising Report

Co-Presidents Reports

- These meetings about an hour, SLT elections will be at the end
- What is the PTA?
 - Meet monthly, alternate between morning and evening, in person and zoom
 - Weekly Monday emails

- Facilitate community events
- Raise funds for our school
- PTA member Intros
- Budget
 - PTA helps close the gap between DOE shortfalls and critical programming
 - Where does money come from?
 - Direct Appeal 36%
 - After School 36%
 - Fundraising & Community Events 21%
 - Merch 2%
 - Carry Over 5\$
 - Each month will share an update on how we are doing to goals
 - Where does this money go?
 - Program Support: ex outside of classroom staff, math coach, art & music programs
 - Enrichment: ex arts, music, theater, math & literacy
 - Professional Development
 - Supplies
 - PTA Operating Costs
 - Capital Maintenance
 - Family Support

Upcoming events

- Movie Night - Friday Sept 20th
- PTA Committee & Volunteer Fair - Monday Sept 23rd
- PS 29 Cheers - Thursday Oct 24th
- D15 PTA Fun Run - Saturday Oct 26th
- Rummage Sale - Sunday Oct 27th
- Photo Day - Monday October 28th

Principal's Report

- Our Value / Mission Statement
- Introduce the admin team (Principal, VPs, Parent Coordinator)
- Priority Focus 2024-25
 - Student differentiation, targeted groups of students based on learning needs
 - More hands on engaged small groups

- Math: *Building Thinking Classrooms in Mathematics* (students should be working together to make sense of math)
- Knowing our Students Well (Academics, Emotional Intelligence, Social Responsibility)
- Anti-racist, Anti-bias
- This year we are an Urban Advantage School (partner with Museum of Natural History)
- Support neurodiversity
- *Wit & Wisdom* - supports *Foundations* / phonics with comprehension and knowledge building
- Reactivate the Parent Equity Team - incorporate workshops for families on anti-bias anti-racist workshops throughout school year
 - Voting today on budget increase for Courageous Conversations - professional development for staff in ABAR and cultural competencies
- Newly designated PROSE school: we have flexibility to make decisions on how we use our time for instruction, planning and professional development.
- Class Size Policy
 - Gov Kathy Hochul signed a law to lower class sizes over the next six years.
 - By Sept 2028 city cap 20 students K-3, 23 students 4-8 and 25 students high school
 - Five-year phase in which new limits would apply to 20% of all classes each year until smaller class sizes achieved citywide.
 - Numbers reviewed citywide and not district wide or school wide
 - PS29 has not been given funds for this program yet
 - Current DOE policy:
 - Kindergarten: 25 students
 - 1st - 5th grade: 32 students
 - PS29 goal is under 30
 - PS29
 - Most teachers have 15-18 years experience
 - More years = higher salary
 - NYC DOE Funds based on student enrollment (Fair Student Funding)
 - School can only use FSF and not PTA funds to pay for teachers
 - PS 29 avg teacher salary is \$119k (significantly higher than other schools)

After School Programming

- Course lottery results were posted this week
 - Cooking and Sewing most popular courses (were able to add a 2nd section of Sewing)

- Pride ourselves on the lottery giving equitable opportunities vs first come first serve
- Running 65 courses this trimester (teachers, staff members and 3rd party vendors)
- Unprecedented interest in kids club this year
 - Shifting to meet the needs best we can however given space available there is only so many students we can take to maintain safety
 - This is a district wide issue other schools have same challenge this year
 - Email at info@ps29plus.com if you still have a need for kids club and will do our best to get child a spot
- Emergency Kids Club (EKC):childcare for last minute needs
 - Sign up online under “events” or call the school

Treasurer's Report

- Will be presented every meeting, not much to share early in the year
- Please check if your company will match any donations! Reach out to Co-Presidents or Co-Treasure to help if needed

Class Parents Report

- Will be working to streamline communications and advanced planning ahead of time - no more fire drills for volunteers
- Activate Class Parents on a consistent schedule

Motion to Approve Budget Amendment to add \$6300 for Courageous Conversations: ABAR trainings - ***approved by Hana & Megan***

SLT elections

- Ballots were distributed and collected

Construction Updates *(brief update after close of meeting with small group)*

- Starting partnership with parents to help with planning and communication
- Two construction updates happening
 - Jungle Gym: the residence next door integrity in question, PS29 has nothing to do with this construction
 - Working with DOE and owners to minimize impact and expedite if possible
 - Accessibility Project: make PS29 accessible including accessible bathrooms, new water fountains
 - Will impact areas of the school, updates to be shared