

PS29 PTA – General Meeting Meeting
Thursday 04/28/22
Via Zoom

Started: 6:00 pm

Ended: 6:43 pm

Minutes taken by Kristin Heavey, Co-Secretary

- 1) Principal Rebecca Fagin
 - a. Welcomed Councilmember Shahana Hanif and staff member Mia Perez
 - b. In middle of new family registration for new kindergarten students - should be 5 kindergarten classes which is pretty standard
 - c. Most families are returning - numbers look pretty stable, lower than prior years but in keeping with 2021-22 and expectations for new zoning
 - d. Waiting on DOE budget for 2022-23 - will be delayed this year so implications for school planning, hiring, class assignments, etc.
 - e. New city G&T process for 3rd grade - will be one class in the entire district for new entries for 3rd grade G&T, not sure where that will be but second grade families will eventually receive messaging about this. Most likely process is top 10% of second grade based upon report cards will be eligible to enter lottery (with parent approval).
 - f. Still high number of covid cases so school is navigating that
- 2) Councilmember Shahana Hanif and staff member Mia Perez
 - a. Trying to be involved in multiple PTA meetings and at least contact each school in district
 - b. Looking to get top priorities for each school, and engage with principals of each school to see what her office can be doing to bring schools together, improve networking, etc.
 - c. Education top issue her office heard about on campaign trail - developed a standalone education newsletter in response.
 - d. City has completed participatory budgeting for this cycle - no PS29 project, but several education priorities, including full renovation of school bathrooms citywide (similar to AC retrofitting across citywide schools)
 - e. Environmental justice legislation - includes universal and mandatory composting (district 39 has received top grades in that area, but want it across district), green roofs, etc.
 - f. Looking to create organizing advisory committee for 39th district
 - g. Mia Perez is point person for Education and Land Use, can be reached via email at mperez@council.nyc.gov or phone (718) 499-1090 x:106.
 - h. Questions:
 - i. School safety/crosswalks - if particular requests that families have identified to 311, let them know so they can escalate to DOT. They have focused on this but prioritizing on intersections where there have been

deaths so far. They have heard a lot about lack of crossing guards, were told there's a shortage but that city is hiring for that.

- 3) Events (Emily Chan and Kim Brooks)
 - a. Rummage sale - very successful financially, Cobble Hill Association helped with that and local resources to expand focus to sustainability/recycling. Made over 5K, thanks to volunteers and partners.
 - b. 3 big PS29 events left
 - c. Super Science Saturday
 - i. School turned into science museum for a day, one day, 11:30-3:30, mostly in schoolyard for COVID precautions - Saturday 5/7.
 - ii. Looking for lots of volunteers - 45 min/1 hour slot, especially to help manage experiment tables.
 - d. unGala and Auction
 - i. Red Hook on 5/12 - silent auction
 - ii. Sold out, can participate in online auction even if you can't attend.
 - e. Block Party
 - i. Still in planning mode, but do need many volunteers - please email PTA if interested.
- 4) Nominees for new board members
 - a. Several positions are turning over, so reach out if you are interested or want to learn about open positions.
- 5) Treasurer's Report (Jon Margolis)
 - a. Budget overview as of end of March
 - b. Fundraising goal is \$275K, currently raised \$190K (69%) - going into big fundraising events so hopefully more progress
 - c. Afterschool program - big success, popular and financially sound, brought in more funds than expected
- 6) D15 Presidents Council (Kim Brooks)
 - a. District wide fundraising committee, beginning stages of planning.
 - b. Kim Brooks will be attending as PS29 representative - can send Zoom link to anyone else interested.