

PS199 GENERAL PTA MEETING
January 15, 2016

PRESIDENTS' UPDATE

Motion carried to approve December 2015 general PTA meeting minutes.

RULER EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM - from the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, paid for by the PS199 PTA.

- Assistant Principal Mr. Beseda introduced Katy Buderman, Nancy Deakin, and Sharon Chung, who each explained aspects of the RULER program being used in the school.
- Think about the emotions that you and your children feel throughout the day. How do we use information about our emotions throughout the day?
- Emotions influence:
 - attention, memory, and learning
 - decision-making and judgment
 - relationships
 - physical and mental health
- What can parents do?
 - Pay attention to your own emotions and your children's emotions. Recognize emotions through body language, facial expressions, tone of voice.
 - Model how you have managed your own emotions
 - Ask your children how what they think would work for them. Have conversations with you children about their emotions and yours.
 - Check back in with your kids
- During the second half of the year the students will learn about taking a "Meta Moment" – expanding the time and space between an emotional trigger and the response.
- In the future teachers and children will be learning about The Blueprint, which helps with problem solving strategies.
- For details, see <http://ps199pta.org/ruler-program/>.

PRESIDENTS' UPDATE - continued

Thank you's to the **School Tours and Welcoming Committees** (Michelle, Jenn Ligouri, and Allison Kori) and the **Lice Check** Committee (Betsy Hart and Rebecca Krein).

Thanks to everyone for coming to and volunteering for the **Holiday Party** (Victoria Micalizzi and Renee Eanes), and for the **Movie Night** (Ed Aldridge and Eve Fogel).

The **Family Giving Campaign** is under our goal for the year, and behind where we were at this time last year. If every family who hasn't contributed yet gave \$75 per student we would reach our target. Every dollar counts. Contributions are 100% tax deductible. You can download the form online or even donate electronically.

Mike Voos talked about The **Golden Gavel** Auction, which will be April 9th, 2016, located at the Highline Ballroom. Ticket presale, \$100 per ticket, ends today! \$120 per ticket tomorrow. 303 tickets sold as of last night.

Anu, Prashanti, and Patricia talked about recent **Diversity Committee** events, including the special education holiday party and Brazilian cooking with 3rd graders. Thanks to Louise for suggesting the Brazilian cooking, and thanks to the Brazilian consulate for the video. **Black History Through the Arts** will be celebrated on January 29th. Visual arts, music, dance, literature and food will be celebrated through hands-on activities.

Liz Sutherland and Victoria Kopper advertised the Parents as Partners workshops put on by the **School Leadership Team** (SLT) every year. This year the event is Tuesday January 26th 6-7pm. At these workshops parents learn from teachers about the curriculum and how to better support our children's education at home.

Workshops include Coding and 3D printing, cooperative collage, writing about math in the lower grades, writing about math in the upper grades, supporting your young writer, and more.

Karen Cape talked about the **Science Center** and the activities the committee sponsored at the holiday party. She again thanked Gale Brewer, Helen Rosenthal, Linda Rosenthal, and Scott Stringer for their financial support for the science center. The Science Center committee has received a grant to purchase tower gardens for the current science classroom from Grow NYC which will also be used in the science center once it is built.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MLK Day, no school — Monday January 18th

Parents as Partners — Tuesday January 26th 6pm

Diversity Committee Celebrating Black History Through the Arts — Friday January 29th, 6:30pm

Stars on Stage - Show us your Act (4th and 5th grade only) — Friday February 5th, 6:30pm

Chinese Lunar New Year, no school — Monday February 8th

Mid-Winter Recess, no school - Monday February 15th — Friday February 19th.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Recap of no-cost fundraisers, Family Giving

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

- Thanks to parents for adhering to procedures for line up in the morning and pick up in the afternoon.
- Chess for 2nd and 3rd graders will be starting soon.
- NDI will be starting soon for 1st graders.
- Q&A
 - Is there a mouse infestation? No; there is not. There is an exterminator assigned to the school who comes once a month. By law we are not allowed to use poison, so glue traps are used instead. Theresa checks the traps every morning.
 - What are the school's weather/recess policies? The official DOE policy is to allow kids outside up to a 16* wind chill, and unless it is raining. The school doesn't always send the K and 1st graders outside because their recess is early and the temperature is lower than for the older grades' recess. Parents were encouraged to send in notes with children with colds or with asthma so that accommodations could be made for them.

Meeting adjourned