



PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION OF PS 199, INC. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2018
8:45 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: SEE SIGN-IN SHEET ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES

LOCATION: PS 199 Cafeteria

CALL TO ORDER (Ginger Schuster)

- After determining that a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order by the President, Ginger Schuster, at 8:47 a.m. Eastern.

PRELIMINARY MATTERS – APPROVAL OF MINUTES & SIGN-IN SHEET (Ginger Schuster)

- Approval of Minutes. A motion to (i) approve re-approve the December 15, 2017 PTA General Meeting minutes as there was an issue with the link to the posting on the PS 199 PTA website made prior to last month's meeting and (ii) the January 19, 2018 meeting which minutes were both posted to the PS 199 PTA website and distributed at the meeting, was made by Vitoria Micalizzi and seconded by Bridget Clark-Burdach. There being no objections or abstentions, the motion was unanimously approved.

FOURTH GRADE STATE TEST PRESENTATION (Ms. Chung, Ms. Partamian, Ms. O'Neill)

- Introduction (Ms. Chung). Ms. Chung began the presentation by providing some basic information on the 4th Grade State Tests, including the schedule and dates of the New York State ELA, Math and Science Exams. She also provided an overview of the test design and expectations.
- NYS ELA Exam (Ms. Chung). Ms. Chung then made a presentation on the NYS ELA which included information on building reading stamina, the kind of test preparation that occurs in the classroom and the test prep materials available online. She also discussed some information and techniques on close reading and annotating.
- Multiple Choice Strategies (Ms. Partamian). Ms. Partamian provided a presentation on the multiple choice components of the exams and strategies that are taught to the children and which should be re-enforced. She provided a sample of a multiple choice question and how to implement the test taking strategy she discussed.
- Short and Extended Response (Ms. O'Neill). Ms. O'Neill provided a presentation on Short Response and Extended Response, including the scoring rubric, a sample and strategy and expectations.
- Additional Information and NYS Math Exam (Ms. Chung). Ms. Chung followed up with some additional information regarding the written response portion of the exam and noted that while the body of the response is important, the introduction and conclusion do matter and are considered as part of the score. She then provided information on the Math Test, including design, how to practice at home
- Conclusion (Ms. O'Neill). Ms. O'Neill concluded by telling the parents that the most important thing to do is to get plenty of sleep, eat well and to compliment your children. She noted that parents shouldn't feel compelled to do double test preparation at home as the teachers do a good job preparing the students in the classroom.

COMMITTEE REPORT (Ginger Schuster; Jenn MacFarlane; Prashanty)

- Auction. Jenn MacFarlane provided an update on the auction, particularly noting that both donations and ticket sales were down. Typically donations are around 800 items and donations are currently only around 160. She noted that ticket sales were down about 100 tickets.
- Events. The President noted that upcoming events were highlighted on the Agenda made available on the front table but wanted to highlight a few upcoming events
 - *Jazz Event (Prashanthi Reddy)* – Prashanthi provided an update on the upcoming Jazz event hosted by the Diversity Committee, including details around the event.
 - *Fitness Event (Jill Erlichman)* – Jill provided information on two events related to spinning classes and noted that if the classes were to sell out the PTA would raise \$8,000.
 - *STEAM Team (Judy Slater)* – Judy Slater provided an update on the committee and an upcoming meeting.
 - *Yankees Game (Lara Bursor)* – Lara indicated that the annual PS 199 Yankees event would be held on Sunday, May 6, 2018 and provided additional details regarding the game and ticket purchases.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Dijana Jovanovic)

- 2017/18 Approved Budget. Dijana provided a report of the current financial condition of the PTA and indicated that as of January 31, 2018, total income was \$445,573, up 3% from the same time last year, and overall expenses were approximately \$459,446, which is down 9% from the same time last year.

OLD BUSINESS

- School Safety. The President provided information on a recent lock-down at the school that was determined to be a false alarm. A discussion ensued about student reactions and a desire to improve communication in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

- None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:25 a.m.

Minutes prepared by:



Ron I. Erlichman
Recording Secretary