



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

**February 14, 2019  
8:45 a.m.**

**ATTENDANCE:** SEE SIGN-IN SHEET ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES

**LOCATION:** PS 199 Cafeteria

**CALL TO ORDER (Jenn MacFarlane)**

After determining that a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order by the President, Jenn MacFarlane, at 8:45 a.m. Eastern.

**PRESIDENT'S UPDATE (Jenn MacFarlane)**

- Assistant Treasurer Election/Vote. The position of Assistant Treasurer needed to be filled and an expedited election was held. Maria Paskowitz nominated Rusty Iodice and a vote was held. Rusty Iodice is now Assistant Treasurer.
- The Book Drive will take place on March 4-5, 2019 in the morning. We need volunteers to help box and transport books collected during the book drive. Sign-up on Konstella
- Spirit Wear Annual Design Search: any student can make a submission. Submissions need to be hand drawn, on letter size sheets of paper by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Please put your children's name on it.

**AUCTION UPDATE (Karen Kennedy)**

- Donations due on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Currently, we have a little over 200 donations but our goal is 600 donations.
- Donation forms available.
- Sponsor a teacher: all teachers, staff, and other school employees are invited to the auction at no cost so we invite members of the community to sponsor a ticket to defray the costs to the PTA.
- We need volunteers—sign on up on Konstella

**UPCOMING EVENTS (Jenn MacFarlane)**

- The FlyWheel Parent Fundraiser will be held on March 3, 2019 at 3 pm at FlyWheel on Lincoln Square. Sign up on Konstella. Each bike is \$100.
- Spring Carnival will be held on June 1.

**TREASURER'S UPDATE (Maria Paskowitz)**

- The revenue we have generated through January 31 is about \$381,000. Revenue in January was roughly \$40,000, mostly generated through the auction, tickets and corporate sponsorships. Expenses in January came to \$11,000, mostly as a result of copier, toner, supplies, second lice check.

**STATE TEST PREP (Ms. Hanshew and Ms. Chung)**

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- Grades 3,4 and 5 all take NYS ELA and Math Exams 2019.
- Test is UNTIMED.
- NYS ELA: April 2,3 (make up day on May 4)
- NYS Math: May 1,2
- NYS Science Exam
  - NYS Science Performance: May 22-May 31 (small groups of students get taken into science room to do experiments)
  - NYS Science Written: June 3
- Test Prep at PS 199 is:
  - Activating reading and writing and math skills that kids have already learned
  - Explicitly teaching test-taking skills
  - Emphasizing thoroughness: need to be methodical in every part of the test
  - Demystifying the test
  - Building stamina
  - Encouraging positive mindset
- NYS ELA Test Design Grades 3-4
  - Day 1: read 4 passages and answer 24 multiple choice questions
  - Day 2: 3 passages, answer short response questions and one extended response question.
  - Fiction, Non-Fiction and Historical Fiction
- NYS ELA Test Design Grades 5
  - Day 1: 5 passages and answering 35 multiple choice
  - Day 2: 6 passages and one short response and one extended response
- Types of Questions on the ELA
  - Multiple Choice
  - Short Answer
    - Short answer. Answer must be supported by a minimum of at least 2 details from the text
  - Extended Response
    - Write an essay often comparing two passages. Must include text evidence from both texts.
- How to support kids at home:
  - Build reading stamina
  - Set aside baskets of various short texts to read at home in different genres, like magazines, newspaper articles., etc. Provide a variety of genres.
  - Talk to your children about the books: ask questions, discuss feelings, what kinds of life lessons are you learning from the journey of these characters
  - Key questions will be about feelings, traits, relationships, changes, themes/life lessons across texts (i.e., friendship theme but in each book a different aspect discussed)
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade exam will range from level N to U/V.
  - 100% authentic texts in various genres
  - Build fluency rate
- There are accessible test prep materials online (this presentation will be on PTA website)
- On Engageny look for parent and family resources. Refrain from using 2016, 17 and 18 exams.
- Test Prep in the Classroom:
  - Specific units in reading and writing now that are focused on test prep.
  - Practice tests will be given in the classroom
  - Test taking strategies
  - Homework
- Close Reading & Annotating:

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- Students should identify the type of text because that determines the lens they should use to read
- Chunk the text and determine important of keyword and phrases
- Code elements: MC—main character; S00setting; P--problem, etc.
- Ask students to “talk back” to text
- Multiple Choice Strategies:
  - Cover answers and come up with your answer first
  - Ask “what does this question mean?” “What is it asking me to do?”
  - Reread the important parts of the text
  - Look for familiar words in the question. Rephrase the question in your own words until you understand it.
- ELA Short Response (Day 2)
  - Strategy ADD : Answer, detail, detail
  - Identify what they are asking (i.e., is it about character traits, theme, vocabulary word?)
    - Then make sure you answer the entire question with an inference
    - Must provide two text evidence
- Don’t paraphrase the evidence.
- Expectations for Extended Response:
  - Must analyze text
  - Must include evidence
  - Organize ideas
  - Utilize precise language and rich vocabulary
  - Demonstrates knowledge of standard English grammar, etc.
  - Make a quick plan before you start writing
  - Must pull evidence from BOTH passages
  - Need an introduction, body and conclusion
- NYS Math
  - Day 1: all multiple choice
  - Day 2: some multiple choice and short response where they must show work and explain
    - Show each step
    - Must be organized
    - Use labeled diagrams when necessary
    - Include math vocabulary and why they solved it that way
  - Practice at home—basic facts and extended facts, practice multi-step problems, multi-digit division and multiplication and long division
  - Students will need to use ruler and protractor
  - Fractions and geometry: infuse it into real situations.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Maria Paskowitz and was seconded by Ana Frischtak. There being no objections or abstentions, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 a.m. Eastern.

Minutes prepared by:

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Ana Frischtak  
Recording Secretary