



**PTA General Meeting**  
**October 15, 2021**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Principal's Report - Bob Bender**

- Bob is grateful for not being principal today as Ms Elkarimmy is principal in training every Friday
- Moment of gratitude taken by Bob and Ms Elkarimmy
- Teachers and students are doing a great job this school year. All staff are working very hard
- Old PS11 is returning!
  - Chess club opened Tuesday
  - Bringing back 2nd grade film making residency
  - Dance company is set to get up and running soon (not an audition process this year. All 5th grade students are eligible - see we'll see how many students stick around). This is a lunch time program
- Nov 2 - election day is an asynchronous day of learning. Teachers will be engaged in professional development at school but there will be no live learning
  - First lesson of the day - we are asking all parents to log in again for a bullying prevention
- Academic screening mandated by DOE has been given to the students. It hasn't been bad. Bob was able to do the ELA and math screening personally for the Kindergarteners. Grades 3-5 took it on the computer. Don't know if the teachers will use the results in tandem/addition to their own assessment
- Student covid testing rate in NYC is about 30-35%. While we can't tell you PS11's rate, I can assure you our school rate is much higher; BUT not high enough. Please, please consider signing up if you haven't already
  - The swab test is not scary, it doesn't go deep, as we've have no problems in the past
- Social emotional needs for kids were anticipated but we were not expecting those needs for their families and the teachers themselves. There have been many many challenges. Conflict resolution has been a big issue, Bob wants to ask for kindness, empathy, respect for the children and the staff. Kindness hasn't been very forthcoming from parents reporting other children. Best way is for your child to tell a grown up immediately at school when something happens
- There are great resources at PS11 for getting your kids help if you need
- Please reach out if you adults are looking for help. I want us to all come together
- Jackie Paolone grateful of being in such a community led by a principal like Bob, whose way of dealing with this pandemic has been top notch

**Parent Coordinator's Report - Stephen McGill**

- NYC accounts: DOE is now providing ALL info you need through this portal (report cards, covid testing consent, bus info)
- Letter went out to all parents who don't have an account, please sign up and make sure you can log in
- You will need your child's OSIS# to activate the account and is not on the letter sent out for security reasons. Please contact your child's teacher, school office or Stephen to get it if you don't have it
- District 2 middle school admissions for 5th graders: so far no guidance on how it will be implemented. We will notify you with new info as soon as more info is released



- Families that are applying for independent and private schools - please note that it takes time to send out the transcripts. Requests for transcripts need to be made to Maria Matcliff and take about 3-4 weeks, so please be patient

#### **SLT Report - Jordan Wright**

- We are thinking through ways to address how kids need to re-learn how to be with other kids
  - Having a shared vocabulary is important
- If you need support I can help connect people to resources. Working on another seminar around parenting in these weird times (with his graduate students)

#### **President's Report - Jackie Paolone & Lisa Cox (ps11ptapresident@gmail.com)**

- Neighborhood Security - Precinct did a walk through on PS11 grounds to assess the current situation
- The next school safety meeting is next wednesday (precinct will be in presence)
- Please contact 911 with your info if you witness anything illegal and alarming. The more records they have of incidents, the more resources that get routed our way
- Ilana Goldberg is heading Art to Remember this year: kids are making self-portraits at school and they are being sent to Art to Remember. Look out for an email in about a month with options for purchasing goods with your child's drawing. The school will make some money from the purchases
- Safety meeting - please reach out to us if you have specific issues that you want us to address since it is a closed meeting

#### **Budget / Finance Report - Kunal and Maria (ps11treasurerchelsea@gmail.com)**

- Finance update \$22K in September - This amount is close to the what we had in 2019, and double of 2020 - so great start of the year
- Thanks to all of your contributions!

#### **Fundraising Report - Mori Ninomiya & Tess Knoebel (ps11annualfund@gmail.com)**

- (Tess) Easy way for everyone to participate is through the Amazon Affiliate program. Please use link posted in the chat and below (or banner on our website).
- <https://www.amazon.com/?tag=wwwps11chelse-20&linkCode=ur1>
- Different from Amazon Smile (which is a very small percentage) Link can be used for Amazon Fresh also.
- Upcoming Fundraiser: 11 for 11
  - Kids are to jot down 11 things they love about ps11 - participation up to \$11.11
  - If we meet 60% participation - kids get a party (no donation required to count as participation)
  - Will be sent out 29th
- Thank you for your participation and engagement, annual fund is off to a great start

#### **Events Report - Leslie Sloane & Lucy Flint (ps11ptaevents@gmail.com)**

- We are thinking about events on the horizon such as spring festival, gala, comedy for a cause
- If anyone is interested to get involved and/or have ideas please reach out



#### **Programs Report - Kristina and Hammond & Domenica Mastroianni (ps11ptaprograms@gmail.com)**

- Lots of activity - super exciting to get back to business as usual
- Thank you to Monica Hill and her team - for running with the Lost and Found. If lost item is marked with first, last name and class number - it will be returned to classroom
- Lost and found is located outside the auditorium for all of the remaining unidentified items. If you are interested in helping out, we have enough people for now but may need to reach out in the future
- Chess team - rocking and rolling. Dawn Jasper has taken it to another level. There are currently 55 students signed up. There is no deadline for admissions, rolling enrollment - please reach out if your child is interested
- 180 kids came to PS11 for a tournament at PS11. 8 of the kids were from PS11. Chess team could use a lot of in person volunteers during the tournaments to oversee the kids (there will be 4 chess tournaments at school this year)
- Merchandise sales will start in person at pickup and drop off. New stuff will be available for the holidays
- Michael Walsh will be leading the Garden Committee in cleaning the school garden and getting it ready for the winter/spring - need volunteers Sat Oct 23rd
- Teresa Eddelston -is in charge of the PS11 newspaper (2 publications)
- Zeta - is in charge of the yearbook team
- Math club - we have volunteers but are looking for a lead role to organize. Please reach out if you're interested.
- If you have any ideas about other programs - please reach out
- Jackie- so happy about the eager parents interested in support - thank you!

#### **Membership Report - Jen Dickson & Steve (ps11volunteer@gmail.com)**

- 63 families have filled out the volunteer survey. Very excited that there are so many eager parents. There are still open spots, so please fill it out. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PS11FamilySurvey>
- Great participation at our last Community Coffee. Looking forward to the next one - we are holding it on a Thursday at 9am (please note the change in date and time from the usual)
  - Next one will be an important one with Julie from the Ryan center going over lots of info all of us parents will be interested in, vaccines etc.
- If any family liaisons are not getting emails from me (Jen) please let me know

#### **Communications Report - Pia Padukone & Julie Carpenter (ptaps11@gmail.com)**

- Have gotten names for volunteers for communications will be reaching out in the next week.

#### **Community Q&A**

- None

Jackie closes the meeting - Please stay safe, have a nice weekend and continue to take care of your kiddos and yourselves!

Adjournment