



**PTA General Meeting  
November 19, 2021  
Meeting Minutes**

**Principal's Report - Cassandra Gregov**

- Principal's Report by Cassandra Gregov – Bob Bender at District 2 Meeting.
- Ryan Center: 200+ kids already vaccinated. Another first dose clinic is upcoming.
- Kids have started eating inside because it is cold and wet outside. We are implementing strategies to keep them with the same kids and take other COVID precautions.
- Indigenous Peoples Month: Ask kids what they have learned.
- No current update on middle school application process.

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

- In addition to first dose event on 11/23, we'll be having second dose events on 11/30, 12/3 and 12/6.
- School return to normal update: register child's vaccine status with DOE. ([Vaccine.schools.nyc](https://vaccine.schools.nyc)) Hopefully the more students that upload, hopefully we can move forward without masks and other returns to normal, so we encourage filling that out.
- NY Students Rise: Pilot program to help parents save for college for their children. Program has started for District 2 Kindergarteners; information went home explaining the program and how it works. Every student is now enrolled. There's a scholarship program (every student receives \$100) that will allow corporations to donate money to students in District 2. There is also a 529 account. Opt out date is 11/30.
- Middle School Update: Parents in 5<sup>th</sup> grade should know about myschools, which is the account in which you apply to DOE programs and is required to apply for middle schools. The information about it will be mailed out to each home, likely by the end of November. Information has been sent out about school tours. Today, all of the D2 middle schools will be posting their in-person or virtual tours at 9 am.
- Everyone should be signed up for the NYCSA online account. Provides updates and information.

**SLT Report - Jordan Wright**

- Continuing to report and update.
- Working on family communication and welcome creative ways to improve communication.
- Name Change Committee (formed last year with 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders) – teachers and students are working on deciding on a new name for the school and will present to the PTA. The SLT will work with them on the logistics of the name change.
- Comprehensive Education Plan: The set of goals, primarily academic but also attendance, social emotional learning, etc., that need to have resources allocated to them and must be met.



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

- Safety update: had many conversations surrounding safety given the situation on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Unfortunately, the city is in a not great situation right now with respect to violence generally, so it's hard to get resources focused on us, but we have a great relationship with the precinct. We have asked for presence on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue during pick-up and drop-off. We are getting a little pushback – there is presence when possible, but it's not always possible.
  - Backup plan: We talked to the commanding officer of all the school safety officers, and he agreed that our school safety officer will sweep 21<sup>st</sup> Street and call in on a live NYPD radio any concerns that might be there before students come out. Bob and others will cover the desk when the sweep is happening.
  - If parents see something not OK – blocking sidewalk, lying on street, not fully clothed, drugs present – please call 911. The more 911 calls that are made and logged with your number and information the better. If they call you back, answer the call because it gets logged as a more serious and viable report, and we can get more resources allocated.
  - Any time we reach out to the individuals responsible for safety in our neighborhood and district, etc., we are getting a quick response, so please reach out to Jackie so that she can make sure our concerns and voices are heard.
- Art to Remember: Deadline coming up for those who want to order in time for delivery before Christmas.
- Jordan did a community coffee about parenting with compassion; a video of part of it will be shared on the website.
- Jackie is putting together a wish list for the swim program on Amazon. Mr. Nichols needs more bathing suits, goggles, swim caps. That will be distributed to the community for donations.

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

- Finance report was shared.

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

- 11 for 11 participation drive: 45% participation rate. Great participation, although not enough to win a prize.
  - Raised more than \$3,000.
- Next big drive is going to relate to Giving Tuesday and giving season.
  - Facebook match – please donate at 8 am on 11/30 because we'll get 100% match.
  - Instagram slides – ask parents to share on stories so people can participate in the text to give campaign.
  - Table on Giving Tuesday at drop off to collect checks and credit card swipes.
  - Corporate match
  - Shopraise – please provide feedback as to whether we should use this.
  - Amazon – discontinued the link for affiliates, but we still get funding through Amazon Smile
  - Kidding Around – this weekend and the weekend after Thanksgiving, 15% of their proceeds will be donated to PS11 if you tell them PS11 or enter the code online. Set up by Ilana Goldberg. On 15<sup>th</sup> between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.



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

- Still unable to do most events, but planning for:
  - Spring Festival – all school festival on a Saturday afternoon (FUN-raiser)
  - Gala – in plans to happen this year (Fundraiser)
  - Comedy for a Cause – should be able to keep on the calendar (Fundraiser)
- If people would like to work on any of these events, please reach out.

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

- Emails are still going out to volunteers, so if someone has not heard anything yet, do not be concerned.
- Book Fair event from 12/6-12/10: Buy a Book, Give a Book. This is an evolution of our previous book fair events because for every book you buy, we are also encouraging a donation to Main Street Books to be used to buy books for the school and for kids who do not have money to buy a book. More will be coming about this in family liaison emails and digest. We are hoping there will be an in-person book fair in the spring. There will be books in an area in the library, and each class will “shop” and make selections, and then you’ll find out your kids’ selections, and you can buy them online.
- Merch: There’s a current bundle opportunity (leggings and wallet, 2/\$20) to order and then pick up at school.
- Lost and Found: Put your kids’ names on their stuff.
- Chess Team: Has rolling admissions. George encouraged people to join because the team has suffered during the pandemic, and it’s great for the kids.

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

- 12/9, 9 am, Community coffee: School support resources such as counselors and social workers will talk about what’s available.
  - We are keeping these casual and not recording, but we are sending out information from the meetings that is helpful.
- Probably one more volunteer opportunity for the next first dose clinic for the Ryan Center and will need some volunteers for the upcoming second dose clinics.

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

- If you have anything you’d like to share with the community, please let us know.

**Community Q&A**

- There are plans to do Valentines K&G in the school.
- Read-a-thon is being planned – will launch in January. We’ll start talking about it in the new year.
- Next meeting is 12/17.

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

Adjournment