



**General PTA Meeting  
March 22, 2019 9:00 AM  
Meeting Minutes**

**Welcome** - Meeting begins at 9:05AM

**Approval of February Minutes** - Motion to approve February Minutes / February Minutes APPROVED.

**Student Council Report: Maya and Gabriel**

- SC has met with the food committee and is in process to review the results of the survey taken recently. More detail to follow.
- SC has taken on a gratitude project to thank people who don't regularly get thanked (ie) cafeteria workers, crossing guards, etc.
- SC has put into place a system in the cafeteria so that tables and floors are left cleaner after every lunch period.
- Compliment day is next Friday (3/29) - every child will get a blank white t-shirt and fabric markers. A thank you to the PTA for donating supplies for this event.
- Next SC meeting will be to organize the t shirts and deliver them to the classrooms.

**Principal's Report: Bob**

- K offers will be coming out soon - be on the lookout. 7 k classes again for the 2019/20 school year. If your child is a non zoned sibling - you will not be getting an offer. You may get better news in early June but in the meantime make sure you register your child for their zoned school and let them know you are waiting to hear from PS11.
- 5th grade ballroom dancing program commenced.
- 2nd grade is finishing up Pascal Modern Dance and will be showing off their skills at Family Friday.
- On Monday 3rd graders will start performing at Circle in the Square.
- 2nd grade show is coming up. This is the first time the students actually wrote the show based on their "Where I am From" poems.
- 3rd/4th/5th have started enrichment.
- ELA testing coming up beginning of April (4/2 & 4/3).
  - On testing days - the building is shut down to accommodate all children and their testing needs.
- Bob is a member of the Design NYC Integration grant proposal team and they were awarded the grant.



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**Parent Coordinator's Report - Stephen**

- SCHOOL SURVEY - please complete this survey online or through the mail.
  - Should be 1 survey per family.
  - If you have misplaced your survey please reach out to the survey group - to get your code - or go to the website and it will take you through to get your code. It is important we get 100% response rate.
- Yearbook is underway - download pictures and/or place an ad. All info coming shortly.
  - 3 designers working on the project this year - please make sure if you send photos in that they are good photos and you can actually see the faces of the children. It takes a lot of time to go through these photos so try to help them out please.

**SLT Report - Robin B.**

- March 12th a meeting was held with the book club hosted by Mr Bender. A lot of good discussion took place.
- The next book - *Culturally Responsive Teaching & the Brain* by Zaretta Hammond. Please join both the teachers of PS11 as well as the book club reading this book.
  - This book will give you some insight to the development that the teachers are currently working on.
  - Also note - author Zaretta Hammond has a ted talk if you would like to google and listen.
- Last family Friday -work related to the mood meter. SLT hosting select family Fridays is a good way to make sure that the messaging gets to the parents on work that is being done in the school.
- Elections for the SLT coming up for the next school year.
  - SLT will have 2 spots are available - nominations will close in May. Elections to be held in June.
  - Think about if this is something that is interesting or if you know a parent that would add value to the conversation.
  - Reminder the SLT is responsible for the comprehensive education plan that sets measurable goals for the school.
  - PS11 SLT also works on a lot of initiatives creating programs through enrichments and family Fridays.
  - A very important piece - making sure our school is a comfortable place that values all backgrounds.
  - Please keep in mind on diversifying the representation of the population of the school is important to this committee.



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- Coming up on March 26th is a program titled - Desegregating Manhattan Public Schools. Please come to hear from students in segregated Manhattan schools along with many other events. All info on the PS11 website as well as in the newsletter.
  - Amy Wells - a member of the Mayor's School Diversity Advisory Group will be speaking as well.

**Nominating Committee: Domenica Mastroianni and Sonal Patel**

- The nominating committee has been announced to facilitate the elections for the 2019/20 school year.
  - All interested parties who would like to run for the PTA executive board are encouraged to reach out to the committee through emails below:
    - [domenica.mastroianni@gmail.com](mailto:domenica.mastroianni@gmail.com)
    - [patelwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:patelwilliams@gmail.com)
  - All board positions are open.
  - You must run in pairs however the committee is happy to help pair you up.
  - Recruiting will take place between now and the end of April.
  - The slate will be announced in May and elections in June.
  - You must be present at 6/20 PTA meeting to run.
  - A list of the positions will go out.
  - Please keep in mind ideas of inclusion and engagement to include all members of the community

**President's Report: Robin L. and Santhi**

- Results on the camps auction - In total \$12,193 was raised - \$2,400 more than last year! Amazing work on solicitation. Thank you to all involved.
- Grants committee - 2 grants received:
  - 1 for lego from the Westside Community grant - \$5,000 for lego robotics.
  - 2nd was \$1,000 from google.
- School wide news the DOE is pulling \$1.5 million from the overall NYC budget - not yet determined how much will be pulled out of the PS11 budget.
- Based on the overall DOE budget cut combined with the current PS11 fundraising - there is a concern as currently the money coming in is lagging to the budget.
- Right now we are at risk for losing some of our favorite programs for next year if we don't catch up to our financial goals - (ie) 4th grade camping, Circle in the Square, & WonderHut.
- PLEASE donate - we need money sooner than later to make sure to protect these programs.



**General PTA Meeting  
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**Fundraising Report: Kate and Stacy**

- \$276k YTD raised with a 56% community wide participation. Both the \$ figure and the participation are lagging. Please donate asap.
- Fun Run will be happening in May.
  - Last year \$70k was raised for the school above budget.
  - The Fun Run is a week long program that the kids participate in.
  - Boosterthon is the company that creates spirit and provides character content.
  - The program culminates in the students doing a run or participating in a fun activity.
  - Parents (not kids) solicit friends and family to sponsor the kids. This is a change from last year.
  - One of the positives about this program is a good chunk of the donations go outside of our normal fundraising network.
  - Prizes will be given to the kids but not tied to fundraising goals.
  - The feedback by the community given last year was very important and all changes PS11 wanted to make - Boosterthon permanently changed program wide for all schools.
  - 7 schools in Manhattan to participate in the program annually with more signing on.
  - The committee has prepared a FAQ list which will be sent out.
  - Please reach out if there are any questions.

**Finance Report: Robin L for the Finance team**

- Monthly number summary was reviewed. Please reach out to the finance team if you would like to see the details.

**Events Report: Leslie and Lisa**

- Congrats to the camps auction team for creating lots of excitement.
- Gala- Prom night is almost here!
  - Solicitation is going great.
  - Still looking for people to take over next year - please reach out if you are interested.
  - Flash sale starts 4/1 \$75.00 ticket.
  - Flyers to be backpacked.
  - NEEDED raffle donations - use your Amex points to buy a prize.
  - Focus this year on more sponsorship - income has already doubled LY in sponsorships.
  - The Gala takes over 200 plus hours volunteer - please make sure to sign up.
  - The team is currently looking for an afterparty location.
  - NOTE \* If you sell \$100 worth of raffle tickets you get a free Gala ticket.



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- Staff is invited as guests of the PTA - so even if you can't go please consider purchasing a staff ticket.
- Fall festival - already underway for next Fall.

**Programs Report: Mori and Laura**

- Great news - Young Artists got clearance to start again! All families have been contacted.
- New PS11 Merchandise for sale - be on the lookout.
  - New leggings, shirts, joggers, & sweatshirts.
  - Merch team locked up for next year. Congrats.
- Chess team - 3 champ teams placed in top 10 in NY.
  - Up coming April 7th all girls tournament.
  - 4/12 national girls championship.
- Lego - Will be selling PS11 Lego Minifigures and Keychains. Be on the lookout.
  - If you are a 3rd or 4th grade parent - consider having your kids join next year.
- Lost and found - Family Friday will be set up.

**Membership Report - Peyton**

- 4 current volunteer needs - head to the PS11 website and click on the raised hand to volunteer for:
  - Gala
  - Book Fair
  - Coin Drive
  - Farm to Table & Gardening

**Communications Report - Michael**

- Take a look at Thursday emails - please scroll through the email.
- Everyone please help to spread the word on all topics discussed to your networks.
- After 3 years of trying we have finally published a Spanish language version of the backpack calendar.
- Let the communications team know if you have anything for the April calendar - [ptaps11@gmail.com](mailto:ptaps11@gmail.com).

**General:**

- Please feel free to give feedback on how to get more folks in attendance at the PTA meetings.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:00AM.**