

PTA General Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2018

Minutes:

Sept Minutes were approved

Principal's Report:

- Student council elections are underway – Pres & VP should be elected by Election Day / Nov 6th & presentations underway
- We've had very successful school-wide drills, including 2 soft lock down drills & [3] evacuation drills – the last one taking only 3 min 10 sec!
- New families – tomorrow is Fall Festival! Please remember this is a community event, and a family event; you are responsible for your children. Everyone is invited and we don't know who is attending so please keep an eye on your children
- A/C update: dance room a/c is in the initial planning stage, and there's a possibility for gym receive a/c as well
- Today & Monday PS 11 has educators visiting because we are a model school. They are here observing PS 11, and we are very proud to participate

SLT Report:

- Thanks to all the families who attended the pot luck & curriculum night – they were both a huge success & we've received great feedback from parents. Feedback themes were: overall happy with day-to-day at the school, but there is always room for more communication about classroom day to day. Parents feel the more information from teachers the better, because it's hard to get it out of kids
- Overall, teachers love Dojo and want you to sign up! Like the posts! It's like Instagram so the more likes and comments the better, and encourages them to post more.
- Book club: update from Rachel: we held our first meeting for the The Hate U Give and the next meeting will be Nov 13th at Foragers. We would love for you to come, see the movie, or join online classroom.
- SLT overall responsibility is to set goals for the academic year, and we are lucky to have an involved principal. We need parent feedback, and read it all so please complete the parent surveys!

PTA Presidents:

- We have business cards! All PTA emails are available to you so please contact us, and ask any PTA Board Member for a card so you have it handy.
- We are working on a bus safety initiative that came to our agenda last year. A few of us testified in front of city council with our concerns because we advocate for PS 11 children as well as all city kids. It was a great experience and remember if you have any concerns about anything reach out to your local city council member.
- Budget/ Financials update: we are off to a great start this school year! Michael's update: provided a brief overview of money coming in and expenses going out. Ask me questions if you'd like more information!
And remember to make your donations as soon as possible.

Fundraising Report:

- We are in the process of updating our accounting systems, so we do not yet have class participation numbers but they are coming soon
- We will have an Annual Fund table at Fall Festival tomorrow and are hoping for a big boost
- Annual Fund Flyers going home today in home folder
- Approximately \$36k has been raised to date and we need class participation to help reach our match goal

- Robin – quick note - all expenses are paid for by PTA and all kids benefit from these programs! Nice job and let's keep it up!

Events Report: A lot going on right now!

Fall Festival

- First, a huge thank you to everyone making Fall Festival happen! There are so many people contributing and pitching in.
- Outside school: Crafts in Chelsea will now include parent vendors, with monies from sales going to the school so please shop! Vendors come back if you shop. There will also be camps vendors, and many of them donate to our auction in May.

Trivia night

- Only 25 tickets left! Get your tickets, because it will be awesome. Sales end tonight at 12am – various places to purchase tickets including Facebook, PS 11 website, and we will also sell at Fall Festival if we don't sell out tonight (venue caps at 100). It should be a really fun event and we love having new parents attend!

Art to Remember

- Turn your kids self-portraits into various objects that make great gifts and keepsakes. Orders starting soon with a holiday delivery

Chairs needed

- Events are a great way to get involved in the school with lots of flexibility. Right now we need a production person for comedy for a cause, which is in Feb and always a successful, fun event!

Programs Report:

Chess Team

- The first tournament was held last weekend and we sold out! 230 kids showed up and we had 40-person K-1 team. It was very cool & exciting, even with a hiccup with registration the night before.
- Spring Event will be bigger and better
- Chess Team table at Fall Festival to spread the word and recognize top chess team at PS 11 – challenge them for \$2!

Newspaper – first meeting was held this AM

Lost/Found – we need 1 additional Monday volunteer, for 1 hour but overall getting more organized and we will start bringing items that are labeled to the classrooms. Remember to label your kid's items, and try to include their classroom number

Spelling Bee

- 10 4th graders are moving on!
- We still need volunteers for 5th grade on Nov 8th

Young Artists

- The program runs from Jan 14-Mar14.
- 13 classes are confirmed but we'd love to get to 15, so we need 5 more volunteers (teachers and assistants)!
- You do not need art experience (set up, clean up, ok working with kids, learn new skills)
- We are looking for a gallery space, so please let us know if you know anyone
- The program is for 1st-5th graders either before school or at lunchtime, in parent-led art class! Super fun & kids love it!

Library - We are open for business!

- All volunteers and librarians are doing a great job but we are always looking for more librarians (need Friday help)
- We have a new sub-committee which will meet 3-5 times a year on Tuesdays and need your help. We will organize, sort, clean up and maintain the library

Merchandise

- New merchandise is here – we have purple and black Hats, new totes that are amazing and t-shirts and will have a table tomorrow so please come buy stuff!

Farm to Table

- farmer's market tomorrow & egg raffle
- Garden to Café Day – we will be serving soup to kids at lunch, and Debbie's after school class will be making the soup.
- Wed Nov 14th last Fall market

Book Fair – coming soon!

- The book fair dates are 10/26-11/2
- Family Friday: families may shop after Family Friday until 10:30a
- We still need volunteers on Tuesday (got one!)
- PTA will hand out 1 book voucher up to \$9 value per kid whose family might not afford it otherwise
- Electronic Wallets! New this year and allows you to digitally give your kids money so they don't need to remember cash (can still bring cash)

Volunteers:

- If you volunteer to clean up after fall festival you will get a tote bag!

Volunteers Needed

- spooky stage & curtains: zombies, escorts, mirror boards.
- Need face painters!
- Bouncy castle monitors needed for the late shift 2:15-4:15 & we may have to close it early if we don't get an additional 5 volunteers
- Reach out to us for anything you can help with

Garden to Café – next Tuesday morning we still need help

Parent Survey –fill it out and get a free t-shirt tomorrow

Grant Writing – would love your help

Communications:

We are responsible for the website, emails, calendars, social media, etc

Calendars – Nov was just sent out, a little early, so please hang on to it!

Emails – are you getting our emails? Sent Thursday evenings

Website – huge source of info, check it out! We keep this up-to-date to benefit everyone

Social media – IG, twitter/ FB follow us! Tell your friends!

- Did you know there is a way to add PS 11 calendar to your google calendar! On our website calendar, bottom corner, it allows you to add it to your phone / computer google cal & it's so easy & cool (demo provided)
- Amazon Banner - use PS 11 amazon link & contribute back to school! Easy to add to your bookmarks or home screen
- Know what's going on and get involved – you are our ambassadors so go out there and tell a friend who is not here today what they missed and get their help!

K-committee: providing coffee, hot topics & special visitors for kindergarten caretakers – keep your eye out for this event! The next K-Coffee event is Nov 14th

Closing Remarks: Thanks to everyone, your time & passion. A special reminder about Dickson Farms: They will donate 11% of profits of turkeys for Thanksgiving back to PS 11. They are a PS 11 and have the healthy, organic, turkeys...tell your friends and family to mention PS 11 at checkout!

Meeting adjourned at 9:50am