



FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF PS 11 PTA
General Meeting
December 17, 2014 9:00 AM

Meeting called to order: 9:06 a.m.

Approval of November minutes

Announcements (Nicole Dorrell and Jamie Sowlakis)

-Merchandise. If you pre-ordered merchandise, it can be picked up before or after Family Friday at the back of the auditorium.

-Auction. Michael Goldsman is soliciting auction items for the online auction later in the year. Email him if you'd like to help out. goldsman@gmail.com

Vote for fingerprinting. The PTA needs to vote to approve that we pay for fingerprinting of any parent who works alone with kids without a staff member present, i.e. in the young artist, science fair programs and library. (Every DOE employee is fingerprinted.) There are probably 30-40 people who need to be fingerprinted. The cost is \$110 per person. The PTA proposes to fund up to \$5k in fingerprinting costs. It will come out of our cash on hand fund. **Vote unanimous in favor.**

Principal's Report (Bob Bender)

Chess. Congrats to the chess team. They went to the nationals in Orlando. Third grade came in 7th in the country, and fifth grade came in 10th.

Grit Book Club. Tomorrow is the last meeting of the parent book club.

Special Programs. Third grade is finishing their playwriting residency with Circle in the Square. Kindergarten is finishing Education in Dance. Fifth grade is finishing their musical theater class.

Spirit Day. Next Tuesday is summer in December day. Please send kids in with shorts, t-shirts, beach towels, etc. underneath their regular clothing.

Principals/Assistant Principals in Training. New York City has a new model for the leadership training program that trains educators to be principals and assistant principals in pairs. Sarah Pinto, our IEP teacher will begin training in this program at PS11 on January 5th. She will be joined by an assistant principal in training on Feb. 3rd. You will see them at the gate in the mornings and they will be formally introduced at future PTA meetings.

Parent Coordinator's Report (Stephen McGill)

Kindergarten applications. If you have a child eligible for Kindergarten in 2015 the applications are now live on line at the DOE website. They are due Jan. 7th. If you have a child in pre-k here right now you still have to apply for kindergarten.

<http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Elementary/kindergarten.html>

Lost and Found. The committee is doing a great job keeping all the kids' lost belongings in order. However we have tons of stuff that has not been claimed. Friday Dec. 19th is the deadline for pick-up on all items currently in the lost and found. All items not picked up by that date will be donated.

Community Programs Report

Farm to Table. (Elinor Johnston) The 2015 chicken calendars are now on sale--\$15 each or 3 for \$40.

Science Fair. (Yasmine Mahdavi) Team poster boards can be picked up in the hallway behind the auditorium. (One for each team.) Written reports are due in the science room at 9 a.m. on Jan. 15th.

SLT Report (Kristin Sewell)

CEP. We worked hard last two meetings on the school Comprehensive Educational Plan (CEP). The DOE changed the template. As a reward school, we didn't have to use it. But we decided to work on the new format. We submitted it to the DOE and it was approved.

New Middle School. In 2017 a new middle school will be opening up on Morton Street. In January, there will be a forum for everybody in the district to come and hear ideas about what the programming for that school will be. To stay informed about this project, go to the website CECD2.net and enter your email address in the red box at the upper right hand corner of the home page.

Fundraising Report (Sarah Frankfurt)

Annual Fund. It's doing well. But we're only at 40% participation so far. We need 85% participation to be eligible for grants.

Amazon. Please go through the PS11 link to shop--PS11 gets credit for every purchase you make.

Comedy for a Cause (Dara Gottfried)

It sold out in three hours. If you still want to donate an auction item, they will be accepted. The online auction goes live on January 27th. Comedy for a Cause Kids still has tickets available. If you qualify for free lunch give your name to Mr. McGill to get free tickets.

Community Events (Alex Levi)

Fairway. Please shop at Fairway and use your community card. We have the capacity raise a lot of money but we have to shop.

Bed bug prevention bags. We would like to propose that the PTA buy plastic zip bags for each child to keep in the closet. We believe that doing this will help keep the children organized and help prevent the spread of things kids may carry to school, like bed bugs. The PTA ends up paying on the back end to help rid the school these problems when they arise. The hope in purchasing these bags is that we can mitigate the issue on the front end. The PTA discussed it as the last executive board meeting and would like to add the cost of buying a bag for each student to the cost of school supplies, which the PTA now pays for. We think it would cost somewhere between \$3,500 and \$5,000. We would like to take a vote today to approve that cost. **Majority approves. Two abstain.**

Community Membership Report (Rachel Glube and Colby Trane)

Support Staff Cards. The kids have made cards to give out to support staff letting them know they are not forgotten at this time of year. Please say thank you, yourself, as well.

Coin Drive. It will probably happen at the end of January. We may or may not have green TD banks. We will do it indoors, this year, so volunteers don't freeze.

Volunteer Opportunities:

-100th Day of School. February. 12th We need volunteers for shifts from 9-12 and 12-3 to help run the games and activities.

-K&G Valentines. Friday the 13th. We need parents to help kids make valentines and send them throughout the school.

-Library. We need more volunteers. If you can't do a weekly shift we can even use help a few hours here or there to help with special projects.

-Merchandise. We need help managing the PS11 merchandise.

Communications Report (Ivana Tagliamonte)

Magazine Drive. We sold about \$5,000 in magazine subscriptions, approximately \$2,000 of which goes to the school. It's an ongoing fundraiser. If at any time you want to renew an existing subscription, go through the PS11 portal and use your child's student code.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:51 a.m.

*57 people signed attendance book.