

**General Meeting**

**April 20, 2016**

**9:00 A.M.**

**Meeting begins:** 9 a.m.

**Approval of March Minutes**

**SLT report (Paul Raeburn & Elizabeth DeVita-Raeburn (edrps11secretary@gmail.com)**

**Event nights.** Architecture night and girls’ facts night were both successful. The next event is poetry night on May 25, coinciding with the book fair.

**Homework.** The discussion on homework changes is continuing. More details will be forthcoming.

**CEP.** In the final meetings of the year, the SLT will be working on the school’s master education plan, known as the CEP, which sets the school’s priorities for next year.

**President’s report (Colby Trane & Alex Levi: ps11ptapresident@gmail.com)**

**75 Morton Middle School.** Plans for 75 Morton St. are continuing. Please get involved if you have children in 4th grade or earlier.

**PTA Executive Board.** We are starting to think about the executive board for next year. And there are three open slots on the SLT coming up.

**Fundraising report—Given by Colby Trane (Sienam Lulla & Santhi Yarlagadda: ps11annualfund@gmail.com)**

**Annual Fund.** We’re pushing hard for 100% involvement in donations. Please give whatever you can; some classes are close to 100%. We’re still very much focused on the annual fund. Please do your best to encourage friends to donate.

**Gala.** (**Adrienne Filipov)** Preparations for the gala, with the theme Shanghai Nights, are continuing. We’re looking for items to sell at the online or live auction. We still need some volunteers, even an hour of your time. We would appreciate your help. Information is on the website regarding donations.

**Contemporary art auction. (Jay Lehman)**Paddle 8 was a huge success. We’re shipping art to Paris and around the world. Thanks to many volunteers for help. Jay won’t be here next year--he’s moving out of the city. \*numbers available upon request.

**Principal’s report (Bob Bender)**

**Registration.** Out of the 20 district siblings that might not have gotten a seat, 14 qualified. Bob has asked the education department to allow the other six in, and it looks good. Please let Bob know if you are moving next year, because we are building classes earlier now and need to know.

**Next year’s calendar.** It’s out. We are already starting to plan for next year.

In May and June, teachers will be working on plans for next year. They will have five days to work on this.

**Homework.** We are not getting rid of homework. We are just not giving it. We are not checking it. Except in fifth grade, where students will get nightly homework to prepare for sixth grade. We are starting a program called HOP--for home-based optional practice. We hope to roll this out in June. For every unit of study, there will be a bank of HOPs. If you or your child decide you want to HOP to it, you can do that. These would normally be homework; but it’s optional. We are not going to check whether they do it. We can help you make family time instructional. But if you want your kid to sit--drill and kill--we will give you tons of stuff to do. Reading will be separate--that will continue to be homework, because research shows it’s valuable.

**Budget report** **(Michael Goldsman: ps11treasurerchelsea@gmail.com)**

**On track.** We’re on track--no unexpected events. \*Numbers available upon request.

**Membership Report (Erica Ruben Hadzic & Stacey Vukelj:** **ps11volunteer@gmail.com****)**

**Auction & Gala volunteers and more.** We have the auction and the gala, and the clipboards going around today are focused on seeking volunteers for that. We need help with the website. The ice cream social for new families is coming up in June. We are asking parents of 4th graders to help with the moving-on ceremony.

**Events Report (Liz Willette Danneels & Ivana Tagliamonte:** **ps11ptaevents@gmail.com****)**

**Portraits**. We did very well with these. We raised about twice what we did with the tea towels.

**Programs Report (Corinne Pascariu, Radhika Nagampalli & Program Chairs: ps11ptaprograms@gmail.com)**

**Book far.** The book fair is at the end of May, which will coincide with poetry night on May 25th.

**Lego Robotics.** The LEGO team got a third place for creativity. The PTA decided to fund it again this year.

**Communications Report (Sonal Patel & Michael Walsh:** **ptaps11@gmail.com****)**

Volunteers. We need new volunteers for next year to run the communications program. It’s a great way to know what’s happening.

**Adjourned at 9:33.**