

## **PTA Meeting Minutes**

DATE: November 18, 2016

LOCATION: Cafeteria

The meeting was called to order at 9:17am

Carmen Lamar Daehler (CLD) presented the agenda and budget. CLD asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes of the previous PTA meeting. None being received, the minutes were approved.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The sample sale raised \$9,000. The results of fundraisers to date were reported out by Laura Einhorn (LE). LE addressed questions about the PTA's expenditures. She noted that the PTA buys approximately \$100-200 in supplies per child at the start of each academic year. This outlay is separate from the PTA funds being spent on teachers' classroom supplies. Approximately, \$60,000 of the \$250,000 PTA budget goes to field trips.

### **Principal's Report**

Kay Loua (KL) gave an update on the construction project. Work is still being work done in the yard. While the initial report was that we would not be able to obtain a permit for Ramon Aponte, another Parks Department staffer indicated that a permit might, in fact, be possible for its use. The auditorium will not be available to us after winter break. Our three upcoming concerts will take place at P.S.111. The MLK concert will take place as scheduled; the Spring Concert will occur a week earlier than scheduled; graduation will be pushed back by 1 day to June 22nd. We are coming up with different ways to run recess smoothly. KL offered her thanks to the recess committee for their games and ideas and encouraged parents to sign up to volunteer during recess.

There is a volunteer sheet for the Playground Committee both on our website and on the family board. Please sign up!

The PTA was asked to vote on funding an extra playground attendant because we currently have less space available for recess in the yard and we may have to shuttle kids up to the gym or to Ramon Aponte Park. The cost of the playground attendant for the remainder of year will be \$5,000-6,000. It was explained that this cost is necessary for the safety of the children. We will try and fill this position from among our Extended Day staff. This expense and position are just for this year and doesn't represent an ongoing expense.

A parent asked KL and the Presidents to confirm the number of attendants per number of classes. They answered that we currently have 2 aides for 3 classes at one time. However, with 3 aides and parent volunteers we can rotate among our available recess spaces. Also, if a child needs to go to the nurse during recess, we need to have an adult available to accompany them.

A motion was made by Jake Daehler to approve the expense for the additional playground attendance. The motion was seconded and approved.

The Winter Concert will be held on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be charging all people for pizza and drinks. This is an attempt to cover more of our costs and is not a PTA fundraiser. We are also working on policy for seating for concert.

### **Fundraising Committee**

The Co-Chairs updated the PTA on recent fundraising events and lodged a request for parent participation. The corporate match program has a \$100,000 target. If a parent or family donates \$75 or more before the end of the year they will be entered into a raffle for VIP seats at upcoming concerts. Shopping via 'Amazon Smile' is another opportunity to help us raise money. The Silver Graphics deadline is Monday.

### **Class Representatives**

There is a meeting coming up on Thursday, December 1st to discuss the end-of-the year policy on teacher gifts.

There will be an Auction meeting on Wednesday, November 30th after drop off

### **Garden Committee**

The garden will be open after school today from 3-4 PM for parents who want to help. Thanks for everyone's participation in the Fall Festival which was a wonderful community building opportunity

### **Healthy Food Committee**

The school receives the NYC 'High School Alternative' menu of School Food. Mondays and Fridays are vegetarian; all the chicken used is antibiotic free; there's always a salad bar available; everything is whole grain and baked, not fried; beef is the only red meat used in lunches. Pizza Fridays are back on. Parent volunteers to help with the salad bar at lunch are welcome – they help kids eat a broader variety of food. Parents were encouraged to tell their children to look for the salad bar. To access the lunch menu: get the "Feed Your Mind" app from School Food and click on the 'High School Alternative' lunch menu and the High School breakfast menu. The menus are also posted on the bulletin board in the cafeteria. We're working on getting the latest menu posted. Lunch numbers are up. Look out for a future survey regarding chocolate milk. We can't make a lot of changes to the menu but we would like to poll parent preferences.

### **Grantwriting Committee**

We've gotten details on applications to the City Council and the Manhattan Borough President.

### **Diversity Committee**

Plans to meet soon. The committee will once again spearhead the 'Who am I in this world?' initiative.

### **School Leadership Team (SLT)**

Peter Chernin, who was chaperoning a trip, is our SLT parent representative. Midtown West's Comprehensive Education Plan was accepted by the Department of Education. A new 'learning walk' for the SLT is being planned. Both will be posted on the family board.

**Old business**

None

**New business**

A request was made to remind parents before the items in the 'Lost and Found' are packed up and sent to charity.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48am