PTA of PS/MS 278
General Membership Meeting Minutes
4/22/16

1. Call to order

2. Minutes – per email for perusal before next meeting

3. President's Report
   - Welcome everybody.
   - Nominations: - co-presidents: Amanda Sullivan & Tamara Riley
     - - co-secretaries: Marcy Pritchard & Danielle Strauss
     - - translating secretary: Adriana Serrato
     - - treasurer: Sandra Meadows
     - - vice-president: Juan Batista

4. Treasurer's Report
   - Our current bank balance is $86.642.93
   - Ledger, bolded, are our last month's transactions (ledger provided).
   - Ledger balance matches bank balance.
   - Dues Drive this year went up.
   - We got some nice corporate matching this year.
   - PTA meeting expenses
   - We ordered new checks (with 2 lines for signing).
   - 7th & 8th grade dance was a big success, but we went over budget by $9.
   - Chef Annie stayed within Wellness budget (Café Day).
   - Audit committee set up between May & June.

5. SLT Report
   - Middle school track instruction available(free) at the Armory (Monday + Wednesday). We would need chaperones (parents?), learning leaders for parents to certify and ID (up to 30 students).
   - We are still fighting for Title I.

6. Principal's Report
   - Testing went well. Removing the time limits worked well for some students, who got to finally finish their tests, but for others it just heightened anxiety.
   - Mulicultural Celebrations were nice.
   - PJ Day + Pizza Party + Retro Day coming up.
   - 4th and 8th grade science test is coming up.
   - Field Day is going to be in May.
   - Read-A-Thon is happening over Spring Break
   - ELA tests had 21 opt-outs. Math tests had 23 opt-outs.
   - Parent Survey had low returns, only 45%, which is puzzling and disappointing.

- 301 & 302 were the only classes to earn Pizza Parties.
- How do we fix this issue in the future?

7. Old Business
   - We had our most successful Movie Night ever netting $689.
   - Family Fun Night was a huge success
   - Schoola looks to be a big success as well.

   5a) SLT Report
   - I-Ready was very successful in 7th grade.
   - New materials for Social Studies & Science (updated materials for all grades)

8. Old Business
   - By laws committee Update:
   - Update the language, dates and times.
   - Officer roles, create a better transition by defining roles better.
   - No emergency changes, but it can adjust as the next board comes in.
   - Chancellor's Regulations – potential changes in the pipeline as well.

9. New Business
   - We need volunteers + time for Spring Fair.
   - Spring Fair is on Saturday, 5/21.
   - Planning meeting 4/23, 3-5pm
   - Week of May 7th: sign making, flyer forthcoming.
   - Yard: little ones, Street: bigger kids.
   - Photo person needed, equipment will be there.
   - We are open to creative ways to work childcare
   - Week after Spring Break: orange flyers throughout the neighborhood.
   - Read-A-Thon is over Spring Break.
   - May 3 is Teacher Appreciation Day – we want to move it to June 7th, flyering?
   - Susie motions to vote, Nely seconds
   - Vote: YES: all, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0
   - 8th grade breakfast needs a parent sponsor/chair person.

10. Adjournment

PTA of PS/MS 278
General Membership Meeting Minutes
2/26/16

1. Call to order, welcome and sign-in sheets provided. Pedro (Mia Ramirez' grandpa) introduces himself as our new translator.
2. Treasurer's Report
   - Bank account: $88.474.62
   - Some budget changes, some revenue
   - Our books are balanced.
   - No surprises in expenses.
   - No questions

Walk-A-Thon winners: Thommy OShea and Derek Tirado. Prizes were handed to the winners and parents.

3. Reading/Approval of Meeting Minutes
   - Minutes were presented
   - Amanda Sullivan motioned to vote to accept the minutes, Nely Quinonez seconds
   - Vote: YES: 21, OPPOSED: 0, ABSTAIN: 0

4. President's Report
   - Monthly meeting with administration to further better communication and have everyone on the same page.
   - The first Monday of the month, every EB member available will meet with administration
   - Spring Fair Captain's Meeting:
   - Allen Hospital will hopefully sponsor the rock climbing wall again
   - Permits are in order
   - Volunteers needed/wanted
   - Input/ideas wanted
   - Annie & Susie are co-captains and await your emails.

5. Principal's Report
   - Mural – awesome project done with CHALK and our kids and volunteers
   - Our students have a new and improved health curriculum (physical and emotional well-being)
   - Today is Wellness Day

6. Old Business
   - Annie pleads for ideas to bring in more funds
   - Preferably less bake sale and more corporate matching checks
   - Tonight is Movie Night and Bake Sale.
   - Next week is Book Fair (all our rugs are financed through this money), volunteers needed!

- EB feels we cannot do the Bake Sale during parent/teacher conferences, due to lack of volunteers/participation
- Amanda Sullivan motioned to vote to not do Bake Sale during parent/teacher conference, Katie OShea and Susie Fuller second.
- Vote: YES: 15, OPPOSED: 0, ABSTAIN: 0
- Target program (card) will end this June
- Schoola – new fundraiser (used clothing), Sandra gave more info and the first bags. Donation bin will be up during parent/teacher conferences.
- We have a new program for science (robo fun) and also the Science Bus will be back for 1 day in June.
- Testing: time limits have been removed (internal meeting about that, more info will be forthcoming once available).
- March: On Tuesdays (grades 3-8) for 1 hour after school for test prep (unless parents are opposed), starts Tuesday, March 8th.
- Book Fair Update:
- Volunteers needed, especially on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
- Movie Night – Bake Sale:
- Inside Out is the movie we are showing. Event starts at 5:30 pm with snacks and water available. A psychiatrist is going to speak before the movie about feelings and how to handle them. Movie will begin at 6pm.

<u>SLT Report</u>

- March 11 – Family Fun Night is a go.
- Add ons to be forthcoming to our CEP
- 'Reading from A-Z' is being vetted, Ms Paynter is currently piloting this program. It gives children access to e-books in English and Spanish.
- Next SLT Meeting:
- There is going to be a presentation on Special Education.
- I-Ready – currently piloted in certain grades
- SLT working hard, Annie is proud and encouraged by the compassion of our teaching staff and their love for our kids.
- Our administration is open to discuss and ready to help. Always.

Raffle: Amanda Sullivan won.

7. <u>New Business</u>
   - Please get involved, speak to Annie or Susie to find out how best to help out.
   - Schoola – please bring your old clothing in to help raise funds.

Raffle: Juan Batista won.

8. <u>Adjournment</u>

PTA of PS/MS 278
General Membership Meeting Minutes
3/16/16

1. Call to order

2. Minutes – per email for perusal before next meeting

3. President's Report
   - Welcome everybody.

4. Treasurer's Report
   - Kristin is expected to be delayed (sick child)
   - Our finances are in order.
   - See printouts available for financials.

5. Principal's Report
   - High School admissions – 4 of our students will go to specialized high schools
   - Our students will go to a broad variety of high schools in multiple boroughs.
   - Process: Administrators are looking at 7th grade
   - A) grades and scores of state tests
   - B) attendance (lateness – important!)
   - C) report cards
   - D) visiting schools at open house days
   - George Washington High School is the only high school in our district (district 6) and it is split into several different programs, only one really good program so far and they all struggle to get 'good students', because the good students tend to spread out to the better/more established programs.
   - There are a few programs available to prep for specialized high schools (Lang for medicine)
   - District 6 is in good standing – meaning none of our schools is deemed 'failing'. (The only district in NYC to be able to claim this, btw.)

6. SLT
   - ELA and Math Stats, Special Ed (Maggie). Wellness policies approval
   - 3/21 Monday 7:30am in the library: Wellness Council Meeting
   - new and improved policies in the pipeline
   - design grant of $6000 between us and PS18 (input wanted on creating a budget for the grant)
   - parent workshop, Breath & Movement – distressing, ADHD kids too, on 4/7

7. Old Business
   - We had our most successful Movie Night ever netting $689.
   - Family Fun Night was a huge success
   - Schoola looks to be a big success as well.

   4a) Treasurer's Report
   - We will book our Movie Night earning once we go to the bank.
   - Career Day – parent re-enforcement
   - Our current bank balance is $87.424.04

8. New Business
   - Copier use protocol vote (Annie explained the recent copier breakdown in school and that there was no protocol in place for the use of the PTA leased copier in case of emergency.)
   - In case of emergency, administration will contact PTA EB board and Ms Reyes will be able to make copies on the PTA leased copier. In case of overages, the PTA is willing to absorb the cost until the end of this school year and then re-evaluate.
   - VOTE:
   - YES: 25, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0
   - Confirm April meeting date
   - June GM Meeting Date will have to be changed from morning to evening, will need a vote.
   - VOTE:
   - YES: all, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0
   - Nominations Committee Vote (Annie and Maggie would like to run, need a third person – Seana will do it.)
   - VOTE:
   - YES: all, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0
   - Learning A-Z Program Vote (Academic support, $550), K-2nd grade, pay for license for 1 year (pilot)
   - Dana motions to vote, Sarah seconds
   - VOTE:
   - YES: all, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0
   - Gym situation – Rental Space Vote (Sports support, $1.500) vote on it as a safety net measure, as school still in process of clearing the funds. 6-8th grades
   - Maggie motions to vote, Dana seconds
   - VOTE:
   - YES: all, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0
   - By Laws Review Committee Meeting: 3/22 at 8am
   - Financial Meeting, Friday 4/1 at 8am
   - Please share any program that you come across that may be free and could help

- **Spring Fair**: May 21
- Permits are in place
- Gated space is going to be more for the little ones, street space will be for the bigger kids.
- Please help out, fill out a volunteer sheet provided
- We also take food donations
- PR: help to distribute flyers

Raffle: Eric Johnson won $20 coupon to IRC (Indian Road Café).

9. Adjournment

PTA of PS/MS 278
General Membership Meeting Minutes
5/18/16

1. Call to order

2. Minutes Approval – per email for perusal before next meeting. Annie will read all the minutes in the June meeting for membership to approve.

3. President's Report
   - Welcome everybody.
   - Elections of the incoming new board and Spring Fair are the main topics today.

4. Principal's Report
   - We won best 'Wellness in Schools' award this year (last year we were the runner up). Our school was called a 'model school for Wellness'.
   - Special shout-out to Kristin and Sarah. Kristin thanked the entire school community.
   - We won a shared grant of $10.000 for beautification and update of the gym (collaboration with PS 18)
   - Field Day is on Thursday, May 26 (soccer field of Columbia's Baker Field)
   - 'Mathletics' is an online math program (K-5th grade) that our school will possibly be piloting (free). It would require some training for teachers and parents. This would be a supplemental program.
   - After school programs – Ms. Reyes is currently looking into chess & engineering (coding and more also available) as a potential addition to our after school programming.
   - Salvadori – our school had it for several years (currently K & 2nd grade), Con Ed is funding it ($8.000).
   - Social Studies (K-8th grade) – new curriculum is out
   - State Exam results – June (only passing or not passing), scores will be available in September.
   - Promotional - portfolios count.

5. Treasurer's Report
   - Our current bank balance is $85.523.86.
   - Budget and ledger match the bank balance (ledger provided).
   - Emergency Budget Vote for Field Day Shirts ($1.728), K-8th grade, out of general Sport & Fitness line.
   - Dana Yeary motions to vote, Amanda Sullivan seconds
   - VOTE:
   - YES: all, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0
   - Reading A-Z – cost was slightly below estimate.
   - Proposed Budget for 2016-2017:

- Kristin walked membership through the entire budget (printout provided)
- See last page of purple financial printout for the proposed budget for 2016-2017.
- Amanda Sullivan motions to accept proposed budget, Marcy Pritchard seconds
- YES: all, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0

6. SLT Report
   - Wellness Council Update: (Sarah Townley)
   - Next Wellness Meeting is on Monday morning
   - Walking Group meets Mondays and Thursdays after drop off.
   - Thursday, June 2nd – parent workshop 'summer habits' at the Allen Hospital.
   - Saturday, June 4th – 'Hike the Heights', (flier upcoming soon). Meet up is at Broadway & Dyckman at 10 am.
   - Internet safety and responsibility – we are searching for speaker/teacher to cover this important topic.

7. Elections
   - President & co-president: Amanda Sullivan & Tamara Riley
   - Secretary & co-secretary: Marcy Pritchard & Danielle Strauss
   - Translating secretary: Adrianna Serrato
   - Vice-president: Juan Batista
   - Treasurer: Sandra Meadows
   - All candidates are running uncontested.
   - VOTE:
   - YES: all, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0
   - WELCOME to the new board – applause.

Raffle winner: Monica Ramirez - applause

8. Old Business
   - SPRING FAIR
   - PR – rain or shine
   - We need volunteers and donations
   - Joanny runs concessions – needs volunteers and food donations (sign-up list provided).
   - Anina Young runs the Raffle - donations are needed/welcome.
   - Bouncy house will go into the gym in case of rain, the obstacle course sadly won't fit inside.
   - Set-up at 9am on Saturday, kitchen opens at 10am.
   - Preliminary set-up starts Friday afternoon, volunteers welcome.

9. New Business
   - Read-A-Thon – return of the packet is extended to the end of this week.
   - Teacher Appreciation Day (June 7th), flier coming soon.
   - 8th grade breakfast needs a parent sponsor/chair person.
   - Field Day is Thursday, June 26th.
   - Next General Membership Meeting is an evening meeting with food and the ceremonial reading of the minutes, performed by Annie Shikany. (Wednesday, June 15)

10. Adjournment