



PTA General Meeting

Friday, November 20, 2020

6:30-7:30p

[Zoom Link](#) and Meeting ID: 878 3647 6321; Dial in: (646) 876-9923

Agenda

The meeting began at 6:35pm.

1. Welcome from the President / Call to order
2. Approve minutes
3. Principal's Report (Ms. Sarah Pinto)
 - a. Book fair has begun
 - b. We've had Title I PAC meeting, and warm vegan meals once a week.
 - c. Had 2nd round of random COVID testing. Over 40 staff and students tested and everyone tested negative. No one left in quarantine.
 - d. Starting a coat drive for families in need of jackets. If you have slightly used jackets, drop them off and will be distributed to families in need in community.
 - e. Ms. Drago has started a project with All Bikes funded by State Farm too, for PreK and K to learn to ride bikes.
 - f. All teachers and students went smoothly into remote when schools closed. Let us know if there is feedback on making it seamless. Teachers also put together supplies (technology, art, individual schedules and packets, book baggies, PE supplies). Ask if you need anything.
 - g. 50 frozen turkeys will be given out on Monday for Thanksgiving.
 - h. Learning Bridges program is open for application, through Settlement Houses. They are supporting working parents who need childcare.
 - i. New SLT team started.
 - j. Class Parents held first meeting, and will use different forms of communication to get information out to all families.
 - k. Ms. Pinto had meeting with Hyde Discovery which focuses on character education built into structure of school. PS 20 will be part of pilot program for free, as a public school.
 - l. There is significant budget deficit that is not specific to PS 20. We need to find different ways to fundraise to supplement deficit. Without federal support or relief, city and state is struggling to give funds to public schools. So PTA is more essential than ever to fundraise to protect programs we already have at PS 20 and ensure families have what they need. More information will be shared as it's given.

- m. We raised \$132,000 in supplies through Donors Choose because staff came together as community, and every bit counts.
 - n. Christine Drago
 - i. Free virtual afterschool will start November 30 for Pre K to Grade 5 from 2:30-4:30 with different classes every 30 minutes.
 - ii. There is now a PS 20 Tech Hotline to get help from 9-1pm.
 - o. Ms. Carrie Orr introduced herself to new families as the Assistant Principal.
4. Treasurer's report (Grace Pai)
- a. There will be a reimbursement expense for \$755 for the Hero Summit that took place on 2/8/2020
 - b. There will be a reimbursement expense for \$367.50 to 99 Design for T-shirt design and updated colors.
5. President's report (Jason Stewart)
- a. School photos update
 - i. Over 60 students took photos.
 - b. Scholastic book fair is taking place: November 16-30
 - c. Hyde program is great opportunity for PS 20 to be part of a small group (and the only elementary school) to test out the program.
 - d. Fundraising (T-shirt)
 - i. After considering many merchant platforms, we will fundraise through Bonfire which focuses on non-profits. They will give us discount
6. 501(c)(3) + website update (Balin Brandt)
- a. Had meeting with lawyer today and things are moving forward. Expect to apply in the next 2 weeks or so. Beginning to prepare for a fundraising drive at a corporative/business level by strategizing which companies to talk to, who has relations with. We will send out survey to parents through Class Parents to see if anyone has connections to companies, so look out for this in your email.
 - b. Can be 3-6 months once IRS receives application.
 - c. Any donations is retroactively tax exempt to when we were incorporated as nonprofit (to April 2019).
 - d. Website will have Principal's weekly letters for families to reference weekly updates.
7. New business
- a. Balin shared learning pods article which can help with families who have lost in-person schooling. You can families together in agreement where adults take turns being the teacher and host other kids in the house.
 - b. Parent asked: Can we do DonorsChoose for devices? Or do a parent survey to see who needs help.
 - c. Winter Wishes is not happening this year due to scale down from NY Cares. Let's consider if there's anything we can do to fill in the gap.
 - i. Parent: We can replicate that where families are having their children write letters, and other families who can sponsor those families would fill that need.

- d. Parent asked: Can we also survey parents about whether they need anything else besides devices.
 - e. Participate in Spirit Week next week.
 - f. Title I meeting voted on technology and health/mental wellness which are biggest struggles. The survey could be a Title I, PTA, SLT meeting.
8. Announcements
- a. Next meetings: **Dec 18 at 6:30-7:30pm**
9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.