

PTA Executive Board Meeting – March 5, 2013 – Approved Minutes

Attendees: 13 Executive Board members

The meeting was called to order at 6:20pm.

- I. **Minutes:** The minutes passed unanimously.
- II. **President's Report:** Joy Heinze (Co-President) announced:
 - a. **Scaffolding:** There is no update about the scaffolding in the yard.
 - b. **June Enrichments:** We are looking into a number of enrichments that will occur in the month of June: For example, National Circus in the Schools, a scavenger hunt with older kids teamed up with younger kids at the NY Historical Society, bullying and cyberbullying. PTA had other ideas for resources.
 - c. **Bully Movie:** We've purchased the movie "Bully." The Administration will watch it and decide which parts may be shown to which grades.
 - d. **RESO A Grant:** We may apply to get security cameras through a RESO A grant.
 - e. **School Budget:** We have no information on the school's DOE budget for 2013-2014. The aides have not been cut.
- III. **Community Affairs:** Joli Golden (VP, Community Affairs) reported that:
 - a. **PACE:** PACE held a Legislative Breakfast where they advocated for more citywide seats and a family-friendly sibling policy. They will try to work with legislators in Albany.
 - b. **WSJ Letter to the Editor:** There was a letter to the editor sent in response to the *Wall Street Journal* article about the lack of diversity in G&T schools. The letter urged more testing and universal pre-K.
 - c. **Land Development:** The DOE is considering developing the land that P.S. 199 is on.
 - d. **Schoolyard Architect:** The PTA will vote on the architect funding in the March general PTA meeting.
- IV. **Green Committee:** Pamela French (7th Grade Rep.) gave this update:
 - a. **State of the City Address:** Mayor Bloomberg mentioned our green initiatives at his address. We started with 4 buildings/8 schools, and now the whole city is adopting it. We will be getting the compostable trays free after next month, which is a \$1500 savings per year. We will be getting rid of styrofoam.
 - b. **Earth Day:** We have a lot of plans for an Earth Day celebration, including a poster contest, bio bus, trip to a rooftop urban garden, and recyclarium vehicle w educational component. The science teachers are working on the curriculum. The movie nights will have a green theme: *The Lorax* on 4/26 for the younger kids and *Avatar* run by the Student Council for the middle school.

- V. **SLT:** Mindy Wigutow (PTA Rep to the SLT) gave the SLT report:
- a. **Next Year's 5th Grade Plan:** The Administration is working on different scenarios for the bubble grade: We need 60 lockers and don't have enough and we need to juggle teachers.
 - b. **Calendar:** Teachers have been more active in using the calendar to try to schedule and coordinate big projects and tests.
 - c. **Homework Review:** The Administration is reviewing year-over-year differences in homework. There was feedback from the PTA that the homework has been very inconsistent between grades and within the year.
 - d. **Time Management:** There are plans to have time management seminars the 1st week in September for grades 5 and up.
- VI. **Budget:** Joy said the Budget Committee met with Donna to learn how she manages the Galaxy budget, with the continuing goal of transparency.
- VII. **Treasurer's Report:** Joy reported that the audit is progressing, and we should have a draft in a few weeks.
- VIII. **Fundraising:** Jennie Thompson (VP, Fundraising) said:
- a. **Save the Music Day:** The Vh1 Save the Music day is March 9th.
 - b. **Movie Night:** The kindergarten moms are working with the Green Committee for the movie night on 4/26.
 - c. **Amazon Account:** We need someone to take over the Amazon account and decided it should be managed by the Treasurer.
 - d. **End of School Party:** P.S. 452 will help w end of the year party on the last day of school.
- IX. **Auction:** We have a new venue. Donations are still needed. Tickets are going on sale. Need writers, especially in the lower grades.
- X. **Grant:** Amy Davidson reported that we got a grant for a wireless scoreboard for the gym.
- XI. **Journal:** Joy said the Journal Committee is created. Portraits, blurbs, and teachers are ready to go. Teachers are no longer writing letters. We need the Journal Reps. to send out reminders that we need the thank you letters for the teachers.

Adjournment: We voted to adjourn at 7:20pm.