

**P.S. 334 – The Anderson School**  
**PTA Meeting**  
**May 9, 2013**  
**Approved Minutes**

1. Attendees: [# to be filled in] parents
2. Minutes: The April General PTA minutes passed unanimously.
3. Discussion of Science program: Mr. Moy, Mr. Conway and Ms. Wolf discussed the K-8 Science program.
  - a. K-3 teaches basic science concepts, with each unit building on the last.
    - i. units include building sound-making instruments and a cooking lab with WITS to learn about healthy eating
    - ii. our kids are well-prepared for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade standardized Science test.
  - b. 4-6<sup>th</sup> grades are designed to teach the children how to bring perspective to facts, and further develop concepts.
    - i. philosophy is “hands on and minds on”
    - ii. develop good note-taking
    - iii. 6<sup>th</sup> grade weather unit allows kids to make their own weather forecast and download it to weatherbug.com
    - iv. Older students have an opportunity to get Community Service credit by helping younger students.
  - c. 7-8 grade Science prepares kids for high school science.
    - i. Learn to ask relevant questions to obtain necessary information
    - ii. 7<sup>th</sup> graders have Science 5 times a week with units on physics and biology
    - iii. 8<sup>th</sup> graders have Science 6x a week and have units on cells, DNA, genetics, evolution and ecology
    - iv. there are peer tutoring opportunities
  - d. Students must have 30 lab hours to be able to sit for the Regents’ exam.
  - e. The Common Core standards for science have been released and we are reviewing them.
4. Budget Report:
  - a. Hard copies of the current year spending report, and next year’s proposed budget were passed out.
  - b. A motion to ratify the Executive Board’s \$2500 expenditure for science equipment from the “contingency” budget line item was approved unanimously.
5. Principal’s Report
  - a. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard on the auction. The funds are needed and much appreciated!
  - b. Our first musical is coming up. The school will see a dress rehearsal this weekend.
  - c. Dr. Fred Kaeser is coming back to the school to talk to the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade about sexuality.

- d. The annual Columbus Avenue Business District gala event in our schoolyard is coming up this month. The schoolyard will be closed for 3 days but the children will be able to play on 76<sup>th</sup> street, which Gale Brewer is arranging to have closed for us.
6. Fundraising/Events
  1. The movie night on April 26<sup>th</sup> raised \$1600!
  2. Kidfit was held on May 4<sup>th</sup>. It was an amazing success and important community builder with the other schools in our building.
  3. The Direct Appeal has a matching event in May. A group of families will match donations up to \$30,000. The goal is to raise \$60,000 before the end of the school year.
7. SLT Update: Parents should go to teachers first with teacher-specific issues.
8. Community Affairs: Speaker Quinn's proposal to expand G&T in NYC was recently released.
9. President's Report:
  - a. The PTA is reviewing funding and other issues related to the rising 5<sup>th</sup> grade "bubble" class.
  - b. The nominating committee for next year's PTA provided a list of current nominees. It was noted that we still need an Assistant Treasurer.
10. The Treasurer's Report was provided in writing. Questions may be addressed to the Treasurer.
11. Adjournment. We adjourned at approximately 9:20AM.