

PS199 General PTA Meeting Minutes
April 20th, 2017 - APPROVED

Sebastian Lieng moved, Karen Cape seconded. Motion carried to approve the March 2017 General PTA Meeting Minutes

Presidents' Updates - Andrea Steinkamp and Victoria Micalizzi

- Thank you again to everyone who filled out the PTA/SLT Parent Survey in February, and will start to use that feedback to inform changes at the school.

Calendar of Events

- Screenagers Screening — Thursday April 27th, 6:30pm
- Math States Test — Tuesday through Thursday May 2-4th
- Teacher Appreciation Day — Friday May 5th
- PTA Exec Board Meeting Thursday May 4th, 6:15pm
- Earth Day Fair — Saturday May 6th
- Spring Book Fair — Monday through Friday May 8th-12th
- General PTA Meeting and ELECTIONS — Thursday May 18th, 8:45am
- Lacrosse Fitness FUNdraiser — Friday May 19th, 6:00pm

Fitness FUNdraiser — Victoria Kopper

- Lacrosse Friday May 19th for K-2nd graders and 3-4th graders. The program does not include 5th graders because their skills and strength are so much more than the lower grades. Plus the 5th graders will be returning from Frost Valley that day and will probably be too tired for lacrosse!
- Fundraiser for PS199 parents - Engine RM a rowing studio. 4 indoor rowing sessions for \$99. 100% of proceeds to PS199.

BookFair — Jenni Wolf and Victoria Kopper

- Book Fair is May 8th - 12th. Reminders: Contribute to the teacher fund. Send money with your kids. Remember that we don't give coin change

Auction — Gayle Greenberg Slonim

- Monday A-G
- Tuesday H-N
- Wednesday O-Z
- Thursday anyone who hasn't redeemed yet
- Friday anyone who hasn't redeemed yet

STEAM Team — Karen Cape

- The Science Center committee has been renamed the STEAM (science, technology, engineering, the arts, math) Team. After raising funds for a science center, we are now in a position to use those funds to enhance the science curriculum in the school. One enhancement is the expansion of the science room.
- The PS199 Earth Day event will be Saturday May 6th 1-4pm. Maker State, USB microscopes, Minecraft coding, Dave the worm guy, solar car racing, food from Lincoln Square Steak and Whole Foods, and more!

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Art Instruction and DOE Art Curriculum Standards — Mila Dau and Michelle Hill

Mila Dau

- Ms. Dau has started talking about the artists in her class as “smartists” - smart artists who imagine, plan, focus, and problem solve.
- A lot of the work has been done in sketchbooks (instructions for making a sketchbook available as a handout). Encourage your kids to make their own sketchbook and then bring it with them to a museum, or suggest that they plan their Lego creation before they build it, or build it and then draw a 2-D model.
- Spatial reasoning, visual intelligence, goes beyond art into real life (think about the spatial relationships involved in changing a tire).
- 4th graders learned about the Cartesian coordinate system.
- 1st graders use pieces of paper and bend, curl, fold them to create 3D art.
- Blueprint for the Visual Arts - the DOE curriculum standards divide art into different strands: painting, printmaking, collage, digital arts, bookmaking, etc.
- 5th graders are spending some time on art history from 30,000 BCE to today.

Michelle Hill

- The first edition of the Blueprint for the Visual Arts came out in 2002 and was written by art instructors. Revised in 2014. The curriculum includes benchmarks for different periods of study. New art making unit called Digital Media. Kids can use what they learned in traditional media, such as composition and color mixing, in the digital media.
- Michelle works with the teachers of her students’ grades to align her teaching with their social studies programs.
- A lot of the materials Michelle uses are recycled. She often goes to Materials for the Arts to reuse materials rather than always using new materials.
- Free digital media software on the laptop carts is called “Brush.”
- We will put a link on the PTA website to the Blueprint for the Visual Arts.

Principal’s Update - Louise

- Discussion about the impact of rezoning, the waitlist and kindergarten enrollment, the shifts in the upper grades.
- Some discussion about the ELA and math state tests.
- Some first graders in attendance requested a ninja spy club.

Meeting adjourned 7:45pm

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Zimba, Recording Secretary