

PS PS199 PTA General Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2016

Motion carried to approve the February meeting minutes.

Presidents' Update

- Help support Plastic Free Friday, sponsored by **Charlotte Gordon** and the **Healthy Child, Healthy Planet** committee! The goal is to limit our contribution to landfills by decreasing the number of plastic bags kids use in their lunches on Fridays.
- The **Science Center** construction is officially out to bid. All plans are final and approved, and we are moving ahead.
- RESO A funding is discretionary funding city council members and borough presidents use to fund projects proposed by their constituents. We have asked Gale Brewer and Helen Rosenthal for funding to improve our A/C ventilation in the auditorium. They have given us positive feedback on our request, but nothing will be definite until **June**. Write letters in support of this proposal!

Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer
431 West 125th Street
New York, NY 10027

Helen Rosenthal
563 Columbus Avenue at 87th Street
New York, NY 10024
email Helen's chief of staff Marisa Maack: mmaack [at] council.nyc.gov

- SLT Elections. **Angeline Huang** described the SLT election process; there is one open position for SLT. Robert Schlaff is the only nominee for the position. Motion carried to cast one vote to elect Robert Schlaff for the position.
- We are purchasing a second round of **Chromebooks** for students in our upper grades to use. Michelle Rosenbaum, fifth grade teacher, sent Louise an email "Chromebooks = Amazing". Thank you to all of the parent body for your continued support of the school.
- **No cost fundraising**
 - Fairway Community Partners Card
 - Farmigo 10% of purchases comes back to the school
 - Amazon 4-10% of purchases comes back to the school
- Please encourage your peers to give to the **Family Giving Pledge Drive**. There has been 28.6% participation so far.
- Thank you to **Geraldine Artaud, Karen Cape, Peter Rockwitz** and all of the volunteers who helped make **Stars on Stage** a fun successful evening. If you have a child who will be in 4th or 5th grade next year consider getting involved.

- The **Auction** is sold out!! When: Saturday, April 9. Where: Highline Ballroom, 431 16th street. Come bid on teacher play dates, amazing vacations, class auction projects, and more. Parent Sponsor packages are being sold at a discounted price given prior purchase of tickets. All teachers, staff, and administrators have been invited to the event. Please consider sponsoring your child's teacher or favorite staff member. Hard copies of the Auction Yearbook will be distributed to every child. Please keep soliciting donations!!
- **Broadway Night** is Monday May 9th 6:30pm. Admission is \$20. Come for a family-friendly evening of Broadway performances and a raffle with amazing prizes!

Zoning update

- Rezoning process last fall was suspended
- There will be rezoning in the next year or two when PS342 opens
- Controlled choice is a proposal being considered. It is similar to the middle school process, where students from a catchment area apply to and rank their choices for their elementary school.
- Please get involved so that your opinion and voice can be heard. We can't represent you if we don't know how you feel. You won't know how you feel if you don't come to the meetings.
- The next CEC meeting is March 15th 6:30-8:30pm at PS87.

Treasurer's update

- Ed highlighted a bump in the corporate match line item.
- If you are involved in the class auction project please submit a check request for reimbursement using the form on the PTA website under the PTA tab

Principal's update

- Mr. Beseda is officially our second assistant principal. Congratulations!
- We are a Respect For All award-winning school.
- NDI begins for first graders on Monday, and there will be 10 sessions
- Fill out your school survey! We get credit for parent participation.
- Our school quality review results came back and we were rated as well-developed. We were rated as proficient in school culture, college and career preparedness. We are responding to the results. **Liz Sutherland** of the SLT asked for suggestions about how to best communicate with parents. **Victoria Kopper** spoke up about how the summary of the session did not match the perception of the participants from the school. **Lara Bursor** suggested an app called Remind which her daughter's third grade teacher uses judiciously to remind parents of upcoming events and to fill them in on what goes on in the classroom.
- Typing for 3rd grade is starting soon with Ms. Taylor.
- Materials for the Arts is a program facilitating art projects tied to the 3rd grade social studies unit.
- Question about whether 4th and 5th graders could learn typing too. Unfortunately it is not something we could offer to all upper grades. 4th and 5th graders don't have a library period, which is when the 3rd graders will receive this instruction.
- Question about the new ELA policies with regard to no time limit. Mr. Griffiths is attending an assessment meeting tomorrow to better understand the new policy.
- Comment about competitive nature of some students to finish early.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Rebecca Zimba.