

PS199 PTA General Meeting Minutes - APPROVED
February 16, 2017

- Motion carried to approve the minutes from the January meeting.

President's Update - Andrea Steinkamp and Victoria Micalizzi

- Parent survey has been sent through constant contact emails as well as emails from class parents. Survey will close this week. Survey is collecting information about what the parent body wants from the PTA and the SLT
- Box Top deadline March 1, 2017. Collection box at security desk
- Upcoming events
 - Winter break February 20-24th
 - Stars on Stage rehearsal March 3 6 PM
 - Stars on Stage performance March 10 6 PM
 - Next PTA meeting March 30 6PM
 - Auction April 1 6PM

Treasurer's Report— Ed Aldridge

- Family Giving close to target

Auction — Gayle Slonim

- Six weeks to go and the auction need donations. Ask for donations any where that you spend money - especially if traveling over vacation. Many businesses are happy to give since it is a great marketing opportunity
- Teacher tickets for sale during meeting.

Fitness FUNdraiser - Victoria Kopper

- January 27th, held an event with Breakaway Hoops. Planning more. If you have contacts with a gym or sports class program please contact Victoria Kopper, vkopper@msn.com

Community Event - Andrea Steinkamp

- Yankees Game Sunday April 30th. Tickets will go on sale after break. Teachers invited. We will wear our PS199 gear!

Fundraising Update - Lara Bursor

- Reminder about schoola.com (gently used clothes) and Wearable Collections (any clothes; bin in the Staff Lounge; PTA paid by the pound collected)

Curriculum Presentations

Chris Miller, 3rd Grade Teacher: "Motivating young writers to write"

- The big secret of reading and writing is motivation with a little push in modeling. Let your child see the value of your writing. Celebrate their writing. Don't look at it with a critical eye.
- The teachers college writing workshop focuses:
 - Motivation

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- Importance of feeling safe to take risks
- Building confidence and pride in the writing
- Celebrate the accomplishments and avoid frustrations (Cheerleader first instructor second)
- Topic choice:
 - Make it personal(why did you write this? What makes it special close? What is the story really about?)
 - Strong emotions (fear embarrassment excitement pride)

Nancy Deakin and Melissa Fields, 1st Grade: “Writing about science”

- First time the students get to think like a scientist - think critically - other writing is narrative and poetry.
- First exposure to the scientific method (observe, form a hypothesis, perform the experiment, analyze the data, report findings)
- Create a lab report so others can understand and reproduce the experiment
- Unit culminates in a science fair where each child can design their own experiment.

School Safety Report - Brendan Beseda

- Blue Cards kept in Front Office - list adults that have access to the child. Parents must update if any changes.
- EpiPen training to all paraprofessionals by school nurse
- Teachers are notified of all health needs of their students
- General Response Protocol (GRP) is posted each class. Outlines the protocol for an evacuation, a lockdown and a Shelter In.
- School has an in depth safety plan with a chain of command clearly outlined. It takes into consideration special needs, Medical situations and evacuations. Other resources available outside of the school including the Borough Safety Director and Department of Facilities representatives.