

**PS199 PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING - APPROVED**  
**April 6, 2017**

**PRESENT**

Andrea Steinkamp  
Ed Aldridge  
Jenni Wolf  
Leslie Cawdron  
Louise Xerri  
Melissa Dye  
Victoria Micalizzi  
Michelle Gahwyler  
Sebastian Lieng  
Amy Friedland  
Enrique Gonzales  
Imran Husain  
Renee Eanes  
Dorine Grollman  
Jill Urban  
Kate Stephan

**ABSENT**

Rebecca Zimba  
Jenn MacFarlane  
Lara Bursor  
Moe Bardach  
Danielle Winfield

**GUESTS**

Tanika Inlaw  
Ginger Schuster  
Sofia Hubscher  
Dijana Jovanovic  
Liz Sutherland (SLT)

- Motion carried to approve March 2017 EB Minutes

***PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE***

- PCB and Ventilation Update - Results of gym and 204 came within guidelines
  - Acceptable levels
  - Tested flow of air
  - Louise should get a report from SCA soon (Was expecting Wednesday, but didn't come through yet.)

Group discussed that going forward would like to push to have regular updated testing of various rooms. There are large filters in the school (example in library), but not currently running.

- Science Center Update - Decision has been made to combine two classrooms vs. constructing outside and use remainder of funds for other upgrades. Release/Agreement has been given from officials to use the funds at PTA's discretion.
- State Test Update - It was a tough week as three day process for grades 3-5. Exam was difficult, some questions were not easy to understand. There is opportunity for parent and teacher feedback. There was a Day 2 survey that came out asking if teachers thought test was too long. There are "pilot:" questions in the test. While they don't count, there is concern that the children are expending energy on them and getting tired.
- 200 Amsterdam Development - The drilling doesn't seem to impact the children. The noise does not seem to be penetrating the school walls.

***PRESIDENT'S UPDATE***

- Request for Additional Crossing Guard at Amsterdam and 70<sup>th</sup>. Assistant Principal Beseda has been in contact with Frank Jordan. It would be helpful for a letter writing campaign. Jenni said that some letters had been previously sent. There is also concern about crossing guard at 70<sup>th</sup> and West End Avenue. Attendees in the meeting have noticed her not taking the job seriously (e.g. she's either not there, or when she is there she's on her phone). Louise will check into this situation.
- Food for 4/20 PTA Meeting - Andrea & Victoria
- Parent Survey Results - A summary was provided to attendees. There are good indications that we are on the right track but room for improvement. One specific area was parents don't understand how approachable teachers are and this needs to be better communicated. School

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safety was very important for parents/guardians in the response. There was a suggestion to do the “protocol” meeting early in the year next year. It was also agreed that splitting PTA meetings between mornings and evenings is a good practice and should continue. Final comments: A couple of good take-aways, but overall good results.

- Passport program was discussed. It has been very successful from a family giving perspective. It does create back-end work. Ex. following up with passport holders to see if they intend on attending events. But, all the events made more money this year (as there are opportunities to “double-sell” a number of tickets.) In order to continue the program, need to get committee chairs lined up, promote during year-end and over the summer and PTA must work on the calendar of events. Matt said he’d still run the program from a marketing perspective.
- Nominations for Officer Positions - Everyone should let Andrea and Victoria know of interested individuals. Also need people to take the lead on committees/running events such as Walkathon, Wine Tasting, Welcoming committee, Broadway night, Stars on Stage, Book Fair.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- General PTA Meeting - April 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm
- Screenagers Screening - April 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm
- Yankees Game - April 30<sup>th</sup> - SOLD OUT! - Expect to receive \$3,600 for PTA
- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon - May 5<sup>th</sup>
- Earth Day Fair - May 6<sup>th</sup>, 1:00pm
- Book Fair - May 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> - Sign up sheet went around for set up and successful in getting volunteers
- General PTA Meeting (ELECTIONS) - May 18<sup>th</sup>, 8:45am - Again, let Andrea & Victoria know of interested people in President positions/Secretary/Treasurer. Also let the know if you are leaving a position.
- Soft Lacrosse Fitness FUNdraiser - May 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm and 6:45pm

**TREASURER UPDATE**

- Budget to Actual Review - Almost at family giving goal and next tally should have it over. Ed went over some items that make up “other revenue” to explain why this is higher.

**COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

- Auction - Hugely successful. Jenn and Gail did a wonderful job. Revenue budget should be exceeded by 10-15% and also came in under budget from an expense perspective. Even without catalogue, still saw increase in corporate sponsorships by about 50%. Cash call was also up by about 60%. There were less items, but more quality, bigger ticket items. There was some mixed feedback on the website (some people felt like they had to check their phones vs. socialize at the event. But cases were made for both sides - sometimes with the crowd, it is difficult to get over to the items to write your name in person. Also, a point was made that it would be nice to see bidders’ names vs. a bidder number so you’d know who you were bidding against. All should share other thoughts/feedback with Jenn and Gail.
- School Store - Leslie gave update - new designs should go on sale late April or early May.
- Walkathon (2017 Chair Needed)

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Consider a pancake breakfast on a Saturday morning
- Bring skit back to Auction - Louise in it.

Meeting adjourned 7:32pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Michelle Gahwyler