



Parents Association of P.S. 196Q
71-25 113th Street, Forest Hills, NY 11375
Minutes of PA Meeting – February 26 , 2019

Opening: Stephanie Cooper started the meeting at 7:42PM. The meeting was held in the auditorium.

Board in Attendance: Meredith Kaback (Co-President), Stephanie Cooper (Co-President), Shelly Shalom (Co-VP), Deepali Patel-Sagar (Co-VP), Yvonne Venezia (Co-VP), Dina Halili (Co-Secretary), Marcy Keltai (Co-Secretary), Tita Jimmo & (Co-Treasurer) and Sangita Ramchandani (Co-Treasurer).

Ellen Maurer (Parent Coordinator), Maria Romero (After School Director) were also in attendance. January minutes approved by Lizzie Fassler & Karen Solomon.

Afterschool Program (ASP) Report – Maria Romero

- Spring semester started on Feb 1 and ends of June 25. Registration is online only.
- Spring Morning Program runs Feb 4-June 26.
- Total number of students registered is 453.
- February camp ran Feb 19-21 and had 75-100 students per day.
- March 14th is a ½ day program for Parent Teacher Conferences: 12pm-7pm. Flyers will be sent home next week.

Parent Coordinator Report

- Please complete the Parent Survey at PTC or online

Treasurer's Report

- We are hiring a bookkeeper and CPA to be in compliance with DOE and IRS.

SLT

Update on Annex AC

The new air conditioners have been purchased and are ready to be installed. Their installation will begin once DOE has updated the electrical in the annex. The target is to have them installed by Spring.

Recess Choices

A parent requested that children in the upper grades have a choice to stay indoors during outdoor recess due to cold weather. PS 196Q cannot accommodate a recess choice due to school safety issues. SLT members reviewed the DOE policy which is that children should have outdoor recess unless it is snowing or there is ice on the playground, low temperatures should not be a barrier to outside play. However, PS196Q has the additional policy to allow indoor recess if the temperature is below 32 degrees.

Rainforest Fundraiser

A parent requested that the school participate in a fundraiser to support the rainforest, as it is studied in the 5th grade curriculum. The SLT will ask the parent to provide more information and share the information with the PS106 Green Team.

Crayon Initiative

The Crayon Initiative recycles broken crayons, which are very bad for the environment because they turn into a “waxy sludge that clogs our landfills and never biodegrades. “The Crayon Initiative recycles the crayons, repackages, and distributes them to art programs at children’s hospitals across the US. This amazing program was brought to us by Lisa Mensch Wolf, a parent of a 1st grader at PS 196Q. She suggested that the school participate in this idea as an Earth Day initiative. Mrs. Migliano approved this program and it has been kicked off by Ms. Ginzburg and Stephanie Cooper, with the Student Government, the Green Team, Mrs. Bronstein and all of our student’s participation. The crayons will be collected year round with Crayon Initiative boxes placed at the school entrance and in classrooms. A team will collect the crayons from the classrooms and box them up for delivery.

CEC Parent Attendance Strategy

Ellen will be sending emails to parents with dates/times of meetings

Update on PS 196 Construction

The work will begin this summer. When school is in session, work will be conducted outside of school hours. The target date to open is 2021.

Overcrowding/Zoning at PS303

Mrs. Migliano will alert the SFL when this will be on the CEC agenda.

Unfinished Business

Recycling – Mrs. Migliano will ask the Green Team to get involved.

PA President’s Report

- Winter Wonderland Dance – thank you to all volunteers
- Eat a Rainbow Week 3/11-3/15
- Book Fair – volunteer needed 3/11-3/15
- PTC bake sale – volunteers needed

Spotlight magazine will print in April

Wellness – recycling initiative – working on this

School spirit wear – Rachel Bialik - more colors, more choices – working on getting catalogue to send out in the next few weeks

Special Guest – Lauren Pacione – Director of School Food

- she came to answer any questions parents had about the food/menus
- PS196 switched to alternative menu about 5 years ago
- Both menus are similar – both meatless Mondays, both have grilled cheese. Major difference is that regular menu has mozzarella sticks and alternative menu has chickpea tagine.
- Both menus are healthy as they have to follow strict guidelines regarding salt, sugar, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm