



**Parents Association of P.S. 196Q**

**71-25 113<sup>th</sup> Street, Forest Hills, NY 11375**

Minutes of PA Meeting – Wednesday, January 22nd, 2020

Opening: Deepali Patel-Sagar started the meeting at 7:38PM. The meeting was held in the cafeteria.

Board members in Attendance: Deepali Patel-Sagar (Co-President), Marcy Keltai (Co-President), Stephanie Cooper (Co-VP), Yvonne Venezia (Co-VP), Dina Halili (Co-VP), Tita Jimmo (Co-Treasurer), Linda Chan (Co-Secretary), Ariana Palacio (Co-Secretary). Absent: Sarah Han (Co-Treasurer)

Ms. Koatz (Asst. Principal), Maria Romero (After School Director), Mary Pierantoni (Parent Coordinator), and 24 parents/caregivers were in attendance.

Karen Solomon and Elizabeth Fassler approved the December minutes.

**Principal's Report – Ms. Koatz (Asst. Principal)**

- Thank you to Abby Hellman and Meredith Kaback for their work on the garden. "From securing grants to establishing a way to help the less fortunate."
- "Upper grades are doing Mock Exams this week and next to test our systems. Grades do not count. Exams are used to inform instruction." Math 1/22 and ELA 1/27 & 1/28
- Real state exams – ELA March 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, Math April 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Souper Bowl food drive next week – please bring canned food
- Brain Power has started working throughout the building – "helping students improve performance through movement and mediation"
- Interim Progress Reports go home on 1/31
- Friday is the last day of Schedule A – Big Thank you to Ellen Chu who helps with the scheduling
- "Along with our AIS (Academic Intervention Services) program, after school for struggling students started in October. This month our English Language learner after school program started."
- Kindergarten is doing creative movement and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade is doing circus arts
- February Fun Friday will be math focused
- Tonight was the last night for kindergarten registration & Pre-K starts on February 5<sup>th</sup>
- February 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> is Respect for all week, February 14<sup>th</sup> is No-One-Eats-Alone Day – Mrs. McEnaney and Mr. Narcisse plan activities
- February 12<sup>th</sup> – no Pre-K
- February Break 2/15 – 2/23
- Saturday Academies start February 29<sup>th</sup> for 6 Saturdays, 1<sup>st</sup> 3 are for ELA and 2<sup>nd</sup> 3 are for math. Flyers will go out shortly
- Cold and Flu season – Please do not send your child to school until they have been fever-free for at least 24 hours.
- Parent Teacher Conferences – Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup>
- Book Fair – March 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>

**Parent Coordinator Report – Mary Pierantoni**

**Workshops:**

- January 22nd 8:00AM Parent Workshop on Autism located in the library, led by our Assistant Principle Mrs. Berkowitz
- Wednesday, January 29th 8:00AM Parent Workshop on 5th Grade Test Sophistication
- Wednesday, February 12th 8:00AM Parent Workshop on Dyslexia
- Also at 8:00AM on February 12<sup>th</sup> Parent Workshop on 2nd Grade Writing
- March 9<sup>th</sup> 8:00AM Parent Workshop on Test Anxiety

**Saturday Academy**

- 6 week program for children in the upper grades only - that will attend along with their parent or guardian

- 3 classes of Math and 3 classes of ELA for grades 3-5.
- 2 ½ hour class from 9:30am - 12pm
- Dates for ELA – 2/29, 3/7, 3/14
- For Math – 3/21, 3/28, 4/4
- Parents/Guardians interested in attending with their child should fill out the form and return to school as soon as possible.
- Thursday, 1/23 at 8:15AM - 8:45AM there will be a Coffee & Conversation with Mrs. Migliano

### **After School Program – Maria Romero**

- Spring semester is 2/3 thru 6/25, registration started last week
- Waitlists are difficult to work through, sometimes people pull out at the beginning of the semester, but it is not common
- There are space constraints to expanding some programs especially ones held in the gym
- Looking into offering Winter break program but waiting to find out from Mr. Hammond if the building will be available as they often wait to do building and maintenance projects when the school is closed.
- Have to adhere to strict quotas to ensure the children’s safety when space is limited
- Photos can be submitted – the ASP finds it helpful for security reasons as well as assisting with a smoother dismissal process especially if there are language barriers for people picking up children from after school
- The IT department is working on registration issues – the system is having difficulty with the large volume of people registering their children at the same time
- Please contact Maria directly via the afterschool email ([www.afterschoolps196.org](http://www.afterschoolps196.org)) with any questions or concerns.

### **Treasurers Report – Tita Jimmo**

- Annual Appeal – to date has raised approximately \$36,000
- Deposit for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade - \$4,800
- Want to make sure to keep a healthy budget to open the 2020-2021 school year with funds for early 1<sup>st</sup> semester activities

### **SLT (School Leadership Team) Report – Ariana Palacio**

#### **CEP Progress Monitoring**

- Math, Literacy (ELA) and Social Emotional goals are on track to be met by the end of the school year.

#### **Brain Power Presentation**

- Brain Power is a social emotional wellness program. “Healthy Body, Happy Heart, Brain Power, I can do it.” A representative will be visiting the classrooms and doing brain break activities with the children. The exercises are developed using brain science to help the children focus, relax and re-energize. There will also be 3 sessions for parents.

#### **School Policy re: Staff Email Addresses**

- Mrs. Migliano will check with Mrs. Bronstein, the UFT representative, to make sure there is no contract issue with posting teachers DOE emails on the PS196Q blog.

#### **Follow-Up: School Photos/Social Media/What’s App Policy Update**

- There is no specific language regarding photos and social media in the Chancellor’s Regulations. The SLT has been challenged with developing a policy for our school.

#### **Unfinished Business**

- The water fountain in the main entrance is not working and it is not just a filter issue. Mrs. Migliano is going to reach out to David Newell Jr. (Deputy Director of Facility) to find out when it will be fixed.

### **Upcoming Events**

- We Love PS196 Dance – DJ, Pizza, special dessert and custom Spirit wear – flyer will go out early next week, pizza is one slice per person, there will be a raffle for an item (TBD)
- Restaurant Fundraiser – TGIF all day on 1/29 using paper or phone, February possibly Buffalo Wild Wings
- Scholastic Book Fair – 3/2-3/6 - \$18K raised last year, goal this year is \$20K, PA gets 25% of profits, E-Wallet use encouraged with possible incentives, “Extended Fair” online orders from 2/26 – 3/10 – PA gets 25% of profits, many volunteers needed

### **Committee Reports**

- Volunteers needed – see signup sheets
- Picture Day and Retake Day raised \$3,800
- Art to Remember – flyers going out in March
- Wellness Council – held Compassionate Communication workshop – 20 people attended
- Spotlight Magazine – Thank you to all people who helped get advertisers, booster flyers went out, need volunteers

- Family Fitness Funday – Thank you to Rachel Bialik for running it, great success, currently researching other activities and dates
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee – 98% dues collected, collecting baby pictures, Stephanie and Alyssa working on the dance, need more fundraising ideas

### **New Business**

- Teacher Time Raffle Fundraiser flyers will be going out this week

### **Q&A**

- A parent noted that there were only 20 people at the Compassionate Communication Workshop and wondered if it was worth the money to fund it as it was not a self-funded event. They saw the benefits of it but challenged the Wellness Council to work on outreach to get more people involved in the future.
- A parent asked if the I Love PS196 Dance will make a profit? Response – this is a community building event and the goal is to break even.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46pm – Closed by Ya-Ting Chang and Diana Sun.