



Parents Association of P.S. 196Q
71-25 113th Street, Forest Hills, NY 11375
Minutes of PA Meeting – January 22 , 2019

Opening: Stephanie Cooper started the meeting at 7:35PM. The meeting was held in the lunch room.

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).

Mrs. Berkowitz (Asst. Principal), Ellen Maurer (Parent Coordinator), Maria Romero (After School Director) were also in attendance. December minutes approved by Lizzie Fassler and Rachel Bialik.

Principal's Report (Given by Mrs. Berkowitz)

- 2/1 is the deadline for the Martin Safran scholarship to submit essays on community service
- Lots of field trips coming up in February – K, 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades
- 2/5 – No school Lunar New Year
- 2/6 – Family Cook Night K-2
- 2/10 – Winter Wonderland Dance Party
- 2/11 – Eat a Rainbow Week & Respect for All week
- 2/13 – Pre-K non attendance day, SLT meeting and Text Anxiety workshop for parents
- 2/14 – 100th day of school & Coffee and Conversation with Mrs. Migliano
- 2/15 – No One Eats Alone Day & Fun Friday
- 2/16-2/24 Mid Winter Break – no school
- 2/26 – PA Meeting & Star Student Awards
- Dreambox – Math website – is up and running for all students – contact Ms. Koatz with any questions
- Math-A-Thon starting soon – we were the #1 fundraising school in the country last year.

Afterschool Program (ASP) Report – Maria Romero

- ASP registration K-2 on 1/4 and 3-5 on 1/16
- what happens in enrichment classes – starts with test prep and then in ELA read novels
- trying to get a guitar teacher for next year so we can offer that
- Creative Drama – acting, role playing, kids create monologues and then there is performance
- school administration does not want martial arts to be offered
- Hebrew K-2 basic, 3-5 advanced

Treasurer's Report

- Annual appeal - \$22,521 -
- YTD expenses about \$4,000
- Budget for Winter Wonderland Dance was approved to be increased by \$500

SLT

CEC (Community Education Council) meeting date

The next meeting is February 7th, 2019, at 7:00p -Community Education Council 28 located at 90-27 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11435 (web: www.cecd28.org/email: infocecd28.org). PS196Q parents are encouraged to attend.

DreamBox Learning Math at Home review

Ms. Koatz discussed the DreamBox program the school is currently testing. The trial period is over in February. If it is successful, as current feedback suggests, the school will purchase it so students can have access to it all year long (including in the summer). It is available for K-8. It is not just for children that are struggling with math but for all children. The program adjusts to your child's proficiency level and lets them move ahead. The research behind DreamBox shows it improves children's skills. The school recommends using the program at home for about one hour a week. The form and email Ms. Koatz sent out shows how parents can keep track of their children's progress. The school can monitor your child's progress but cannot see if parents are tracking their children.

PS196Q Construction Update

The SCA (School Construction Authority) canceled the scheduled meeting with Mrs. Migliano. Meeting to be rescheduled.

Unfinished Business

Superintendent Sarduy visited our school on December 18th, 2018 and by all accounts was pleased with what she saw.

Mrs. Migliano will be meeting with the developer of the Parkway Hospital on January 23rd, 2019, to discuss construction impact on the school.

PA President's Report

- Winter Wonderland Dance – you can pay in advance – need volunteers – teacher time raffle
- Restaurant Fundraisers done: Buffalo Wild Wings will be 2/13
- Eat A Rainbow Week – Feb 11-15 may change
- February PA meeting – all school food questions will be addressed by head of school food
- Crayon Initiative – safe and bring in used/broken crayons – flyer will be going home
- Family Fitness Funday – Hip Hop 2/16
- School Spiritwear – trying to get the cost down – Rachel Bialik volunteered to be on this committee
- Spotlight Magazine – in the process of laying everything out
- Parent Resources – there is a spot on the website dedicated to this information

Parent asked about her 5th grader wanting to start a fundraiser to help the rainforests. Suggested speaking to the teacher first and getting the 5th grade committee involved.

Wellness Report:

- Our school won the Citywide Platinum Award for 2018 – food, physical movement, social and emotional wellness – great job
- 5th grade classes will have a Pure Food workshop
- Family Fitness in March is capoeira
- Garden- its been a quiet winter but sign up for helping out in the spring

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm