



Parents Association of P.S. 196Q
71-25 113th Street, Forest Hills, NY 11375
Minutes of PA Meeting – September 17, 2019

Opening: Deepali Patel-Sagar started the meeting at 7:04PM. The meeting was held in the cafeteria.

Board 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) and Sarah Han (Co-Treasurer), Linda Chan (Co-Secretary) and Ariana Palacio (Co-Secretary).

Mrs. Migliano (Principal), Ms. Koatz (Asst. Principal), Maria Romero (After School Director) were also in attendance.

Rocky Bonanno and Alyssa Pollack approved the June minutes.

Principal's Report

- Welcome Back – great start to the school year
- Test score results (topline) - #1 in District 28 in Math – 97.3% at or above grade level
 - #2 in District 28 in ELA – 90.3% at or above grade level
- Goals for the year – Writing – Teacher's College
 - Math Talk, building conceptual understanding
 - Supportive Environment/Equity/Inclusivity
 - Focus on knowing each child, part of the Chancellor's initiative
- Parent Engagement – 786 people attended
- Art Program: 5th Grade Ballroom dancing
 - 4th Grade Hip Hop
 - 3rd Grade Broadway
 - 2nd Grade Circus Arts
 - 1st Grade Puppetry
 - K Creative Movement
- Garden – donated 115lbs of produce to Common Point Food Bank
- MyStudent accounts – set up info has been sent along with DreamBox, ThinkCentral and ReadingEggs
- Please LABEL EVERYTHING – Lost and Found is already piling up.
- Organics Program – goal toward zero waste – speaker will come to PA meeting to review
- IEPs and medical accommodations were discussed – reach out to Mrs. Berkowitz

Afterschool Program (ASP) Report – Maria Romero

- Overall message – let the teachers, Maria and your children know about any changes to their schedule (Ex., unexpected stays at afterschool, early pick-ups and absences from afterschool)
- School Nurse is not available for ASP so you have to keep Maria informed of any allergies/health issues. Make sure medical forms are filled out and given to Maria.
- There is a basket of glasses in the Main Office Lost and Found
- Please LABEL EVERYTHING
- Currently 480 children in ASP

Treasurer's Report

- Tita reviewed and explained the budget line by line. Anticipated Income, anticipated expenses and new difference line for clearer understanding of budget.
- Board received and addressed questions for some of the events: 5th grade budget, Teacher's reimbursement, Library books, Family Fitness Funday, Assemblies.

SLT Report

-Garden/Composting

The school is putting forward \$2500 to support the garden and the PA is voting on putting forward an additional \$2500 - \$5,000 for Farmer Fred and the lower grades (K& 1) will get sessions this year.

The Wellness Council secured additional funding for \$125K from Assemblyman Hevesi for an outdoor classroom and green house.

-Water Filters for Classroom Fountains

Currently discussing what to request on the Participatory Budget e.g., bathroom updates as well as water filters for classrooms.

People need to get out and vote.

-Combined Upper/Lower Grade Gym Classes

A parent voiced a concern about lower grades and sharing gym with the upper grades. This year most shared gym classes will be only one grade at a time.

-Busing for Older Children

The DOE does not currently offer busing for 3rd-5th graders. In previous years, parents have gotten together and hired their own private bus.

-Unfinished Business

Fifth graders will not have a library period but do have "open access" meaning they can visit the library when they have time.

-Gym requirements are 120 minutes of movement – gym classes, yoga classes and movement in the classroom e.g., Go Noodle, Brain Breaks, Move to Improve.

-Parent coordinator candidates are currently being interviewed.

-New addition to the school is tentatively scheduled for completion in 2021. Current plan includes 10 additional classrooms and 4 offices.

Upcoming Events

-Quick recaps of Anti-Bullying Assembly, Picture Days

- Halloween Party – no food in gym this year – need volunteers

Committee Reports

-Wellness Council - Meredith spoke about Cooking Labs, garden and Candy for the Troops – bring candy to school on 11/1.

- Spirit Wear – Rachel spoke about the website and new style options for purchase

- Author Visit – will confirm authors at next PA meeting

- 5th grade committee - no updates yet – looking for volunteers

- Spotlight – looking for volunteers

- Lost and Found – LABEL EVERYTHING

- Garden – Abby spoke about future plans, Fred Wolf (aka Fred the Farmer) from Nature Based is coming to the school and shared some veggies from the garden

Fundraisers

-Chipotle – Tuesday 9/24 4:00-8:00pm – looking for volunteers to come and bring people in the door

- Yankee Candle – is coming, keep an eye out for more information

Meeting adjourned at 8:14pm