

**Parents' Association  
of PS196Q**



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

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

Minutes of PA Meeting – Tuesday, January 19<sup>TH</sup> 2021 - Virtual

Opening: Meeting started at approximately 7:33PM. The meeting was held via Zoom.

Board members in Attendance: Linda Chan (Co-President), Ariana Palacio (Co-President). Folu (Fiyinfolu) Balogun (VP), Marcy Keltai (VP), Alyssa Pollack (VP, Anitha Iyer-Kothari & Vay Kothari (Co- Treasurers) and Dina Halili (Secretary)

Mrs. Blimie Berkowitz (AP), Mary Pierantoni (PC) Maria Romero (ASP), and 26 parents/caregivers were in attendance.

Meeting called to order – by Fiyinfolu Balogun and Elizabeth Fassler at 7:33 pm  
Alyssa Pollack and Linda Chan approved the December minutes.

Mary- Parent Coordinator- Tomorrow will be a remote day for all students. Building will be closed for 24 hours for investigation. Mrs. Berkowitz sent parents notification of positive cases. There will be no food served during this closure. Food will be served at PS101 and FHHS. Kindergarten applications were extended to 1/22/2021. Middle school applications are going on until 2/9/2021, if you need access for your child for MyStudent account, please email Mary. Should you need help with middle school applications or have any questions, you can reach out to Ms. Thiem. If you are still not receiving communication thru Operoo please let Mrs. Berkowitz know.

Mrs. Berkowitz- Principal's report- learning is going very smoothly we're getting a lot of really positive feedback from parents from students from teachers. Things are going very nicely with that and we're very proud of everybody's work. And also just kudos to all of our students who are doing really a phenomenal job in terms of just following protocols, making sure that they're safe. They've been amazing with the mask wearing with the distancing with handwashing and just all the things that are keeping everybody safe and healthy when they come to school.

SLT- Ellen Chu- last meeting was on 1/13/2021. Our school is now on A/B schedule, that is what most of the parents who took the survey liked. They preferred this than the one week on one week off. Unfortunately we couldn't do 5 days, we have too many kids wouldn't be safe. Emails will still come from the situation to parents regarding COVID. SLT training is required for our Members, so we did do that all online, of course, but that's it in terms of updates and there are no updates with regard to the budget it hasn't changed and we are on track for CP goals. Any SLT questions, you can reach out to Ellen Chu- [ellen.chu@yahoo.com](mailto:ellen.chu@yahoo.com)

Wellness- Cigall- A yoga class was held today for grades 1-3, about 15 kids showed up. Robin was great. Karate class is being scheduled for 1/28 for the older kids 3-5. Tae Kwon Do will be on Feb 5<sup>th</sup> as well. A fencing class is scheduled for Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>. Cigall is working on a cooking class as well. If anyone has any referrals or suggestions please email Cigall [Cigall@gmail.com](mailto:Cigall@gmail.com). She will do all the legwork.

Antiracism committee – Ann Pattan / Fiyinfolu Balogun- there is now a whats app chat for this group where they have been able share resources and information about holidays. This past weekend, we had a talk about how to talk to your kids about race. As parents, we should be the first resource for our children, when it comes to talking about race, the committee is happy to share the presentation, PA can post it on the website. There will be another meeting next month so stay tuned. If you want to join the chat the link is: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/HGHLkyLq9iNCzrwY67dfxm>

Restaurant Fundraiser- Tuscan Hills fundraiser is tomorrow 1/20/21. Working on February, will let you know. Would love input / help from parents to get more restaurants to join. Ashely will put together a shared document so we can all see. You can reach Ashely @ [britexpat@gmail.com](mailto:britexpat@gmail.com)

Art to Remember– Marcy Keltai- Drawings should be done on 8x11 paper and should be uploaded to the portal no later than 2/28/21. Lots of fun things you can order and a portion of the \$\$ goes to our school. Depending on how many students participate and create artwork and upload it and how many families order products on the school will make between 25 and 33% of all the sales ordered by our deadline. Grade leads will be sending out the instructions and themes for each grade.

Treasurer's Report- Anitha- School operates on the city fiscal calendar which is July 1 through June 30. Reviewed spreadsheet of expenses and what our annual expenses are. Spoke about chocolate fundraiser which generated \$160, the owners actually gave us \$200.

We had a guest speaker who is also a parent here at PS196 Howard Pollack. Howard currently works for the Speaker of the city counsel Corey Johnson. He works in his community engagement division. Howard spoke about his experience in government, what we as parents can do for our school to make sure our kids are getting the best education. Explained to us how things work and the logistics. We as a school should speak in unison and have one voice and work together on whatever it is we want and need for our school. Obviously we would work with the principle and administration.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:01 pm Anitha Iyer-Kothari and Sangita Ramchandani

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