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Parents Association of P.S. 196Q 71-25 113th Street Forest Hills NY 11375 info@pa196.org

PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING Tuesday, January 16th, 2024 HYBRID

Minutes of PA Meeting

Board members in attendance: Elizabeth Fassler (Co-President) Ilana Haas (VP), Lindsey Sweedlund (VP), Rachel Bialik (Treasurer), Marina Tasopoulos-Chan (Secretary)

Quorum was achieved. Approximately 15 parents were in attendance.

<u>Call to order</u>: The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:37pm by Vay Kothari and Yvette Jong.

Approval of December General Meeting Minutes: The December 2023 minutes were approved by Lindsey Sweedlund and Rachel Bialik.

Principal's Report: Ms. Koatz-

Project Arts: Students are participating in the arts with Marquis Studios, funded by the PA. Kindergarten will be starting creative movement soon; first grade will being doing puppet theater, and second grade will have circus arts. Fifth grade has their culminating show at 9:00 am on Thursday, January 18th.

5th Grade Computer-Based Tests: 5th grade is taking the simulation state exams: math on 1/17, ELA on 1/19, and science on 1/22. Scores do not count for these simulations. On Wednesday Janurary 24th at 9am and 6pm Ms. Koatz and Ms. Helman will host a *parent workshop on the* 5th grade science exam.

Field Trips: Fourth grade has being going to Colonial Dames. Second and third grades have been going to Little Pulp.

Progress Reports: Parents will be receiving interim progress reports from teachers on Friday, January 26th.

Pre-K and Kindergarten applications: January 19th is the last day to submit pre-k and kindergarten applications. Parents do not need to register for 1st grade.

School News:

- Our great secretary Sherri Bell will be retiring. Her last day is January 29th.
- At the start of February, we will begin our Math-a-thon.
- Don't forget to send in essays to Ms. Jarrat Koatz for the Martin Safran Award.
- On February 8 about 50 4th graders will take the NAEP. Parents of the children taking the exam have been notified.
- Our Lunar New Year Assembly will be February 5th.
- On February 13th, author Chris Grabenstein will be visiting 5th grade.
- Mid-Winter Break will be from February 17th through the 25th.

Parent Coordinator's Report – Ms. Medero

There are two upcoming parent workshops. On Tuesday, January 23rd at 7:45am, Ms. Donovan and Ms. Medero will host a Save for College workshop about the NYC scholarship program for parents of students currently in grades K, 1, and 2. On January 25th at 8:45am, there will be a Crafts for the Lunar New Year workshop held at PS144.

<u> Treasurer's Report – Rachel Bialik</u>

The income and expenses from the past four months was presented. Income and expenses for the month of December were reviewed. We are currently at 75% of our Annual Appeal goal.

There was a parent question about what happens if allocated money for an event is not spent. Money that is not spent would remain in the PA funds. Any expenditure over \$250 that is not already in the approved budget would need to be voted on by the PA body.

Update on recent and upcoming events:

- The deadline to order pictures is Monday, January 22nd.
- Our Lunar New Year assembly for all grades will be on Monday, February 5th.
- Restaurant Fundraiser: February 1st through 7th at Aigner Chocolates.
- 5th Grade Committee: Please submit photos and dues if you have not done so already.
- World's Fair Committee: Our second committee meeting was held. We are currently seeking volunteers to host countries/cultures and for cultural performances.

SLT update:

- Mid-year test administration for CEP progress monitoring is underway. Fifth graders, who will be taking computer-based tests this year, will have test simulations in January.
- Kindergarten will have a new cluster class schedule for the spring semester.
- Brain Power classroom visits are continuing.
- The theater arts program is up and running.
- Our student council collected over 1,000 lbs. of food for City Harvest and 460 pairs of socks for the NY Coalition for the Homeless.
- Our new sensory gym is being set up.
- The SLT is looking into the possibility of the return of fifth grade helpers to kindergarten classes.

• There has been no news on the crossing guard issue.

Non PA Community News:

The AEI group announced their meeting for January 26th at 8:00pm. Email <u>parentsforAEI@gmail.com</u> with any questions or go to linktr.ee/parentsforaei.

<u>Q & A</u>

Adjournment – 8:27 pm by Lindsey Sweedlund and Wen Ching W.



