

**Parents' Association
of PS196Q**



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

PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING
Tuesday, October 19, 2021 - 7:30 - 8:30PM via Zoom

Minutes of PA Meeting

Board members in Attendance: Elizabeth Fassler (Co-President), Dina Halili (Co-President), Ilana Haas (VP), Marcy Keltai (VP), Alyssa Pollack (VP), Rachel Bailik (Co- Treasurer), Elaine Wong (Co-Secretary)

Maria Romero (ASP) and 26 parents/caregivers were in attendance.

Call to order @ 7:32pm: Sarah Han & Alyssa Pollack
Approve minutes: Marina Chan & Yumi Lee

- Principal's Report - Mrs. Koatz

- Mrs. Koatz discussed new regulations and COVID policies. If there are cases in the classrooms, only those within 3 feet are considered close contacts and will need to quarantine. An investigation is done by the administration and seating charts are obtained from teachers to determine close contacts. If there is a case on a school bus, anyone within six feet for greater than or equal to 10 minutes will be considered a close contact. If close contacts are not able to be determined, everyone on the bus who is not vaccinated will need to quarantine. Administration will investigate by interviewing the driver and students.
 - Similar to what some middle schools are doing, seating on buses may be assigned to help.
 - Middle schools are having many issues but PS196 kids are mask compliant!
- 3rd/4th/5th grade families – state scores will be posted on the students' NYSCA accounts. Please be sure to create an account if you haven't already done so. Scores have not been posted yet but when they are, the school will send out an email. If you are having trouble accessing your NYSCA account, please email Mrs. Koatz.
- If you are having trouble with Operoo, please email Mrs. Berkowitz.
- COVID consent forms – 2 weeks ago, 30% of families have not replied, but we are now down to only 12%. Majority have consented to random testing (77%).
- Report cards will be released on November 4th. They will also be posted to students' NYSCA account. The NYSCA account also contains all information on attendance, grades, state testing, and blue card information.

- Parent Teacher Conferences will be on November 4th, which is also Diwali. Thank you, Anitha Iyer, for bringing it to the administration's attention. Unfortunately, the conference date was scheduled by the DOE. However, teachers are aware and will reschedule for those families who are celebrating.
 - All meetings will take place virtually and will be between 1 – 3pm or 4:30 – 7:30pm. Early dismissal will likely take place at 11:50am but will send an email to confirm. School buses are still available for early dismissal.
- Beginning of year screening is completed. DO NOT FREAK OUT. These are not used for grading and is only used to inform instruction and support needed for the kids. ELT and Math screenings are complete. In November, there will be social emotional screeners. However, PS196 does social and emotional learning everyday and has a good pulse on everything that is going on.
- **Treasurer's Report / Annual Appeal – Rachel Bialik**
 - Our budget was net neutral last year, which is good considering we had no annual appeal.
 - In August 2021, we received \$184 from Amazon Smile and our only expenditure for the year so far was our monthly website maintenance fee.
 - So far for our Annual Appeal, 125 families have donated. We're asking for \$50/child but any donation would be appreciated! We want to be able to provide fun enriching activities for our kids this year. The class in each grade who raises the most will win a class party.
- **After School Program - Maria Romero**
 - For Parent Teacher Conferences on 11/4, the ASP will be offering a half day program. An email will be sent and registration will begin on a first come first serve basis. This will not be a regular schedule and every student who attends will need to register on the ASP website. There will be three pick-up times for dismissal – 3pm, 5pm, and 6:30pm. Pre-K students are welcome on this day,
 - Veteran's Day, 11/11 – still to be confirmed. A separate email will be sent for when registration is open. Siblings of students are welcome to attend.
- **Update on committees & events in 2021 - 2022**
 - Restaurant Fundraiser
 - Tuscan Hills fundraiser is on 10/20 for lunch & dinner. Show flyer and 10% of sales will go back to the school. In person & take-out – takeout orders should be placed over the phone or directly on their website. The owner, Roberto, is a PS196 parent.
 - Picture Day – Marcy
 - Pictures are in post-production. Parents can view online beginning 11/1 and will be notified via Operoo.
 - Everyone gets a unique code
 - 11/30 is the make-up day and you'll need to sign up
 - 5th Grade Committee
 - The Committee has been formed but 5th grade parents can still join – classof2022ofPS196Q@gmail.com
 - Spiritwear
 - Vinita will be taking over from Rachel
 - The website is live and more products are available. Orders will be delivered to the school (no shipping fees).
 - Great way to show school spirit and have gear for Spirit Days

- We'll also be selling spiritwear at the Halloween party
- Wellness Council
 - Cigall was unable to attend today's meeting but is working on some exciting events including karate and yoga
- Social Media – Elaine
 - Elaine discussed the PA's social media efforts
- Class Parents / Volunteers
 - Thank you, class parents, for volunteering!
 - We still need a class parent for 591
- Halloween Party on 10/31, 2-5pm
 - All adults must be vaccinated and everyone must be masked
 - There will be a DJ, tents, pizza, and goody bags for the kids
 - We need volunteers! Open up to non-PS196 families as well
 - Purchase tickets in advance so that we can gauge how much pizza to order and how many goody bags to make; avoid the bottleneck to pay the day of
 - Rain or shine
- **SLT (School Leadership Team) Report - Alyssa**
 - CEP is still waiting for feedback
 - Four new hires - a new Parent Coordinator, Temporary Special Education Kindergarten teacher, and two school aides
 - New citywide Special Ed recovery program after school or weekends for those with IEP
 - More guidance to follow
 - SLT by laws were updated
 - Time of meetings are now Wednesday, 6-8pm (usually the 2nd Wednesday of every month)
 - Length of term is two years
 - Upcoming meeting dates: 11/10, 12/8, 1/12, 2/9, 3/9, 4/6, 5/11, 6/8
 - Random Covid testing, everyone stays masked, all staff is vaccinated
 - iReady screening; results will be given in November
 - Social Emotional screening
 - Safety / Traffic
 - DOT is putting up additional signage and speed bumps
 - 112th precinct / Community Affairs officers are aware of issue
 - SLT meetings are open meetings – only members are allowed to speak at the meeting but anyone can attend

Adjournment: Alyssa Pollack, Elaine Wong, & Marcy Keltai at 8:13pm

