



Parents Association of P.S. 196Q

71-25 113th Street, Forest Hills, NY 11375

Minutes of PA Meeting – October 15th, 2019

Opening: Deepali Patel-Sagar started the meeting at 7:35PM. The meeting was held in the cafeteria.

Board members in Attendance: Deepali Patel-Sagar (Co-President), Stephanie Cooper (Co-VP), Yvonne Venezia (Co-VP), Dina Halili (Co-VP), Tita Jimmo (Co-Treasurer) and Sarah Han (Co-Treasurer), Ariana Palacio (Co-Secretary).

Ms. Koatz (Asst. Principal), Maria Romero (After School Director) and 65 parents/caregivers were also in attendance.

Elizabeth Fassler and Rachel Bialik approved the September minutes.

Deepali informed parents/caregivers that all PA members are welcomed to sit in on the PA Executive Board meetings held right before the general PA meeting in the lunchroom (7:00pm).

Stephanie spoke about the Ned assembly, picture day and Thanked the volunteers.

Principal's Report

Ms. Koatz spoke.

- Thank you to first Fun Friday attendees – “lots of pajamas and great books”
- Thank you and congratulations to PA and volunteers for a successful picture day – makeup date 11/19
- Middle school panel was successful, great turnout. Thank you to Meredith Kaback for organizing
- Students in K/1 will receive vision screenings 10/18, 10/21, 10/22
- Pre-k through 2nd grade can now apply for G&T exams. Register online at myschools.nyc – deadline 11/12. Students take test during the school day in January. Pre-K students are tested at another site on weekends. Spots in 85 schools are very competitive. Even a perfect score does not mean acceptance. PS196Q does not have a G&T program.
- Many open houses for 5th grade families – find information on PS196Q website
- Cooking labs starting with 2nd & 3rd grade – Thanks to Wellness Council
- Farmer Fred has started with classes with K & 1st grade students – Thanks to Abbie Hellman and Meredith Kaback
- Character day on 10/31 – no masks or weapons allowed
- Bring left over Halloween candy on 11/1 and 11/4 to the school for donation
- Halloween Party on 10/26 from 5:00-8:00
- Author visits:
 - David Ezra Stein – Kindergarten – 11/12
 - Ruth Chan – 1st grade – 11/13
 - Alan Katz – 2nd grade – 12/12
 - Adam Gidwitz – 3rd grade – 11/6
 - Dan Gutman – 4th grade – 1/3/20
 - James Preller – 5th grade – 11/27
 - Rachelle Burk – Pre-K – 1/10/20
- School closed on 11/5 and 11/11
- Fun Friday 11/8 – Topic: Social Studies
- Parent Teacher Conferences on 11/14 at 1:00-3:00 and 5:00-8:00

After School Program – Maria Romero

- No ASP available on 11/5 – Election day
- Checking if ASP will be available on 11/11 and will let everyone know
- Will have ASP for 11/14 from 12:00-7:00pm - Parent Teacher conference – Email and flyer will be distributed with deadline for signing up

Treasurers Report

- Annual Appeal – 173 families donated – Target was \$24,000, to date \$18,000 donated
- *Vote taken for revised budget – Passed by majority*

SLT (School Leadership Team) Report

- No SLT meeting held since last PA meeting so nothing to report – next SLT meeting 10/17/19

Upcoming Events

- Cooking labs – 10/22-10/25
- Halloween Spooktacular Party, Saturday 10/26, 5:00-8:00 – will have games, pizza, photo booths, Lemon Ice King of Corona, arts & crafts and an MC.
- Picture retake day – 11/19, 5th grade and sibling pictures will be taken then too. Codes for ordering will be sent home
- Restaurant fundraiser - Queens Bully – Taco Tuesday 10/22 4pm-12am
- Tuscan Hills – restaurant fundraiser 11/20

Committee Reports

- Volunteers needed
- 5th Grade Committee – first meeting after this PA meeting
- Author visits – please see Ms. Koatz notes above – will be reaching out for volunteers
- Lost & Found – some items were donated to charity after a long time in L&F
- Spotlight Magazine – need volunteers especially graphic artists, anyone with connections to local businesses that might want to pay for ads or donate, there will be boosters this year
- Wellness Council – cooking labs and garden update – K/1 children loved their experience with Farmer Fred, rest of grades will have a chance to contribute later in the year, community service/food donation

Fundraisers (Need to Vote)

- 5th Grade Dues
- Art to Remember
- Bake Sale (November and March PTC)
- Garden Project
- Halloween Party
- International Night
- Lost and Found Labels (IdentameLabels.com)
- Mother's Day Plant Sale
- Picture Day
- Restaurant Fundraisers
- Spirit Wear
- Spotlight Magazine
- Teacher Time Raffle
- Yankee Candle
- *Vote taken – Passed by majority*

New Business

- Rocky Bonanno is taking over the PA website – currently being trained by Deepali
- Stephanie will be attending CEC (Community Education Councils) meetings along with Alyssa and Howard Pollack

Q&A

- Parent asked if Book Swap is happening – only if a Chairperson(s) can be found to run it
- Is there recycling of water bottles in the classrooms? – will discuss at next SLT meeting
- Heather Cook asked about having a scooter/bike rack – will discuss at next SLT meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm – Closed by Ivy Chait-Skow and Heather Mitchell