



Parents Association of P.S. 196Q

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

Minutes of PA Meeting – Tuesday, September 15th, 2020 - Virtual

Opening: Meeting started at approximately 7:30PM. The meeting was held via Zoom.

Board members in Attendance: Marcy Keltai (President), Dina Halili (VP), Linda Chan (Co-Secretary), Ariana Palacio (Co-Secretary). Maria Romero (ASP) and 121 parents/caregivers were in attendance.

Teresa Liu and Alyssa Pollack approved the June minutes.

Meeting called to order – by Dina Halili at approximately 7:30pm

○ **Welcome**

Marcy welcomed attendees, introduced the board and gave a brief statement.

“Meeting will end promptly at 8:30 - Please keep mics on mute if you are not speaking

Q&A during the second part of the meeting, please write “SPEAK” in the chat if you have a question. We will not be answering questions from the chat because some could easily get missed in a busy chat. Any questions that do not get asked regarding PA related items and answered before 8:30pm should be emailed to info@pa196.org and will be addressed within 24-48 hours. We do not have any information about the ASP or cohort and teachers. The administration has asked us to ask that you please email Maria Romero with ASP questions and Mrs. Migliano, Msl Koatz, Mrs. Berkowitz and Mary our PC with any school based questions, Thank you!”

○ **Approval of June Minutes**

A copy of the June minutes was emailed by Mary to all families ahead of the meeting. Participants were asked to review the minutes and Linda asked for two names to approve.

○ **Afterschool Program Update – Maria Romero**

The DOE has not yet approved in-person afterschool programs. PS196Q is offering virtual afterschool programs for now. More information will be emailed to parents.

○ **Treasurer’s Report – Budget recap – Dina Halili**

“We have nothing to recap as we have no income or expenses at this time, and we are awaiting guidance from the DOE about how to handle budget and approvals virtually. Plus all the events we normally hold in a given year are not viable at this time.”

○ **SLT (School Leadership Team) Report – Ariana Palacio**

Brief recap of meeting – much of the information has changed since 8/13 SLT meeting.

- Mrs. Migliano presented the school plan to the District Review Team. Discussed process to decide on model and reviewed surveys.
- We put in a proposal to use Model 2. Which would have the children doing in-person learning 5 days in a three-week period.
- We do not want to have more than 11 children in a classroom to ensure safe social distancing protocols are followed.
- Temperature checks and Google quizzes will be administered before each child enters the school. The quiz will be 3-5 health and exposure related questions.
- We have to stagger how children are entering through the 6 entrances the school has.
- Teachers will be working collaboratively within their grade.

- There will be 238 students each day in the building as of now.
- We will need to coordinate with the yeshiva across the street so we can stagger entry into the building, and we need 240 feet of space in the front of the school to meet social distancing requirements.
- Does the school have the bandwidth for WiFi to support all the in-person students? We believe we do.
- Is there a plan if a child shows up on the wrong day? The guidance is to send them home. A separate room needs to be designated to have them wait to be picked up. There is a big safety concern with maintaining the cohorts and limiting exposure into different cohorts.

- **Discussion on procedures - elections for PA Board and SLT – Marcy Keltai and Linda Chan**

We still have not gotten specific guidance from DOE legal on how to hold the elections fairly and follow the Chancellor's regulations but the D28 President's Council and FLC are recommending "an expedited election" which means nominations and voting will happen during our next general PA meeting on October 20th at 7:30. We hope to be able to share clear guidance by October 1st. All 9 positions are open and any parent can run for a position unless they are a DOE employee. Please refer to the position descriptions emailed out with the meeting reminder. Currently, Marcy and Dina will be running VP positions again and Ariana and Linda will be running as Co-presidents. If you are interested in any position you should put yourself forward for it no matter who else is running.

There are 3 positions open for SLT this year. It is a two-year commitment so parents of 5th graders (with no other children in the school) are not eligible to run as they will not be able to serve out a two-year term. The School Leadership Team includes Ms. Migliano and a team of equal parts parents and teachers. They meet once a month and are updated by the principal about the status of the CEP (Comprehensive Educational Plan) and the budget as well as any other issues brought to the meeting by the Parent Liaison from the parents. The parent liaison is elected by the SLT and is responsible for taking questions and recommendations from the parents to the SLT and sharing the results of the meetings with the parents during the PA meetings.

- **Review of committees – past and future – Dina, Marcy, Linda and Ariana**

Unfortunately most of the events the PA has run for years are not feasible until the school fully reopens but we want to work together with all of you to come up with new and innovative ideas to bring our school community together and bring joy to our children. Then briefly discuss traditional events/committees
Scholastic book fair, Spirit Wear, Restaurant Fundraiser, Lost and Found, Teacher Luncheon, Cooking labs, Author visits, 5th Grade Committee, Spotlight, Mighty Milers, Plant Sale, School Supplies, Parties, Book Swap

Art to Remember, Picture day, first day of school signs, new idea for international night (Backgrounds in the Foreground committee) sharing recipes from your country and cooking videos, possibly Twitter and SnapChat communications committee

Grant writing committee, Wellness, Languages interpreters for meetings, virtual talent show (including hobbies and creations of any kind), workshops about mindfulness (like Brain Power exercises), assemblies

Class parent/Grade leaders committee (including activities), virtual spirit week, Parent as well as children workshops including topics around social emotional and trauma informed education and anti-racism, "One book, One Community" read together by grade, Pandemic cookbook – sharing the beloved recipes that make our families smile, themed walks/scavenger hunts for families (Halloween)

- **Q&A**

- Ashley spoke about the upcoming Chipotle fundraiser – flyer to follow
- What if parents have children that will be entering from different entrances? Dina ask the administration and get back to parents.
- If the health forms need to be shown at the door by parents, what happens if a child is taking themselves to school without a parents? Dina to check with administration

- Is there a way to get advanced notice of school meetings like Ms. Koatz's "Office Hours"? Office hours will be a weekly standard going forward so there will be more lead time going forward.
- Will the PA be open to all suggestions for learning online classes and etc? Yes. Absolutely. We would like to take all suggestions and recommendations.
- Are Covid tests mandatory for the children? Not at this time.

- **Adjournment**

Marcy requested 2 people to close the meeting at 8:30pm – Sangita Ramchandani and Anitha Iyer