



P.S. 10 PTA

**PS 10 PTA
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 17, 2012**

Location: P.S. 10 Auditorium

Executive Board Attendees: Mike Andres, Nancy Berson, Maribeth Dono, Stephanie Hochman, Ali Hodin-Baier, Jane Kotapish, Velma McKenzie, Dempsey Rice, Lisa Vincenti and Nadine Wallace.

The meeting was called to order at 6:39pm.

- I. The meeting began with a welcome from Co-President, Stephanie Hochman, who informed members that Co-President Amy Schwartzman and Principal Laura Scott would not be able to attend this meeting due to a conflict with the CAC rezoning meeting.
- II. Approval of September 2012 General Minutes- motion to approve offered by Maribeth Dono and seconded by Elizabeth Ellis. No objections.
- III. Principal's Report – Ali Koziel standing in for Laura Scott
 1. School and Student Scoring –
 - i. PS10 got an “A” Progress Report; we placed third in district. This is outstanding news, but also means that it will be harder to reflect good progress again next year.
 - ii. 4th and 5th grade individual reports to come out the following week; there's a big push to get this out on ARIS (DOE's database system – Achievement Reporting Information System).
 - iii. ARIS is a tool for parents to view their children's scores. In addition to tracking scores for 4th and 5th graders, it also reflects attendance for lower grades and a variety of factors for the school. It makes most sense for parents to begin using the system when their child is in 3rd grade, and it is critical to at this time to confirm that the student's personal information is correct.
 - iv. FYI: test prep is incorporated into general curriculum. Nothing specific is offered outside of the curriculum until closer to the test period.
 2. The registration period for G&T testing for PK, K, 1st and 2nd Graders is now open. Interested parents should call the main office to get the required OSIS number.
 3. Programs that have just Started –
 - i. Afterschool Academic Prep for struggling students in grades 3rd, 4th and 5th; typically this is facilitated by teacher recommendation.
 - ii. Track Club - As a result of the large level of interest, participation had to be scaled down. It is now only for 5th graders.
 - iii. Morning school for lower grades, which is targeting lower grade ESL or at-risk students.
 - iv. Student Council is now operating. Participating students will be involved with the Harvest Day family food drive and have the chance to sing the National Anthem at the Barclay Center. Ticket information to come soon.
 4. Staff development with parents through Karl Anderson and Corey Gillette.

General Minutes • October 17, 2012

5. Workshops on TERC (the common core math program) will be scheduled soon, and the Math club is about to start for 4th and 5th graders with a high interest in the subject.
 6. Rezoning Issue –
 - i. Due to overcrowding in PS 107 and PS 321's district zones, there is a meeting tonight regarding the rezoning of the district lines. The CAC is looking to PS10 to pick up some of the areas. The administration anticipates that this will be a heated discussion.
 - ii. With more growth, the school may need to think about changing key amenities (such as art and music rooms), but would likely first consider eliminating pre-K.
- IV. SLT and Title I Program –Ali Koziel
7. Being eligible for this is what allows the school to provide free lunches to students.
 8. The additional money the school receives is universal, which means it can be spent on anything. This is a huge benefit to the school. It is now being used to cover 4 teachers, ½ administrator F status.
 9. Title I Program funds are to be allocated as follows: 10% professional development, 5% highly certified professionals; 1% parent involvement. The ideas for parent involvement are:
 - iii. Math workshops
 - iv. Common Core workshops
 - v. A centralized school messenger program (ATS), which involves automatic delivery of vital messages to families regarding emergency needs, alerts, etc. This system allows for messaging to be customized by grade, class, etc. as needed.
 10. Parent Involvement policy, school compact and Parent committee were discussed.
- V. Treasurer's Report (PTA)– Maribeth Dono
11. A Budget verse Actuals report for the period July 1-September 30, 2012 was distributed and reviewed. It included the budget, and both September and year to date actuals. Highlights include:
 - vi. \$4,779 in lice removal contributions thus far; total cost for 4 checks this year is \$9,000 (PTA will cover the difference).
 - vii. Tenstock brought in \$8,000 (\$5,200 net); this was larger than expected and sponsorships were the key to this.
 - viii. Candy sale income is a few thousand less than the projected \$11,000; families can still place orders online to help meet the gap in anticipated funds.
 - ix. A recommendation was made to add a column into the budget report that indicates how much was raised.
- VI. Treasurer's Report (Afterschool) – Nadine Wallace
12. Budget vs Actuals presented through September 2012. Very little activity is reflected in August, all of September Smash is included in September, and Year to Date includes actual registration through October 16th (not complete month).
 13. A significant jump in September Smash registration was noted.
 14. The numbers demonstrate that the Afterschool program is in good shape and on target to meet projections.
- VII. By-Law Amendments – Stephanie Hochman
15. It was explained that since the By-Laws call for a 2/3 majority to pass amendments, a hand count is necessary to finalize the vote from the last meeting. No questions were raised.
 16. Each amendment was read aloud, and then Stephanie called for a separate vote on each. Hands were counted by Ali Hodin-Baier. Outcomes are as follows:

General Minutes • October 17, 2012

- x. Item 9a- No questions asked before vote. In favor –50; Opposed -0. = PASSED
- xi. Item 9b- No questions asked before vote. In favor – 44; Opposed-0 = PASSED (Please note, a change in wording was made during this discussion to revise the phrase “shall be made and voted upon...” to “shall be made and may be voted upon...”)
- xii. Item 9c- No questions asked before vote. In favor-49; Opposed-0 = PASSED
- xiii. Article IV, Sections 4.3.8 & 4.3.9- No questions asked before vote. In favor-49; Opposed-0 = PASSED
- xiv. Article IV, Sections 4.8 & 4.9 – No questions asked before vote. In favor – 46; Opposed-0 = PASSED

VIII. Election of New Parent Members – Roseann Ciarlante

- 17. Nominations were invited from the floor; 1 additional candidate was identified making the total number of candidates 3. Each was given the opportunity to speak (one spouse spoke for a candidate who was unable to make it to the meeting). A recommended motion was made and approved with the following language: “should one of the candidates voted in not be able to fulfill the role, the third candidate shall take the second position.” There were no oppositions.
- 18. Ballots were prepared and distributed later in the meeting; each member was told to check off 2 candidates.
- 19. A subsequent vote took place and was counted in the room. Roseann reported that the two voted in Co-New Parents were Lavoya Woods-Dionne and Ledra Solomon.

IX. Vote on Remaining Budget Issues – Stephanie Hochman

- 20. Desks and Chairs totaling \$7,000. Replacement of 100 desks was requested, and by Executive Board review, at least 40-50 were deemed dire replacements. Objections were expressed, mainly concerning the fact that PTA funds should not be used for capital expenditures and basic necessities of a public school and that this was an uncomfortable precedent to create. The vote was motioned in by Nadine Wallace and seconded by Elizabeth Ellis; 3 members were opposed.
- 21. 3rd Grade Music Program (students not covered by Mr. Ellis) totaling \$6,800. Per recommendation of Mr. Ellis, this would cover a 17-week program on reading and writing music with a recorder or percussions; evaluations of program options is still ongoing. The vote was motioned in by Isa Hererra and seconded by Steve Masie; 1 member was opposed.

X. Conflicts of Interest / Ratification of Relationship

- 22. The Dept. of Ed’s Conflict of Interest Policy changes periodically and a new rule pertaining to Executive Board membership now effects PS10 (Chancellor Regs were changed this summer). The rule says that PTA members who work in a revenue-generating curricular capacity cannot be on the Executive Board. This capacity extends to the full school district. Due to this restrictive policy, Jody Drezner Alperin (an Executive Board Member who has educational contracts with PS10 as well as other local schools) recently submitted her resignation. Jody was thanked for her years of service as well as her continued interest in staying involved as a regular PTA member.
- 23. A PS10 Executive Board member (Nancy Berson) owns the Moveable Feast and helps the PTA with catering for special events. Her pricing continues to be generously discounted and due diligence with bids confirms that Moveable Feast regularly comes in under other bid prices. The Executive Board wanted to review this working relationship with the general membership and properly document approval of this process. Members were asked to ratify this relationship and make it clear that this was a relationship that could continue because it is not related to curriculum. It is solely a

General Minutes • October 17, 2012

fundraising relationship. After a bit of discussion, in which the Board was asked to keep good record of the comparative bids received, a motion was presented by Dempsey Rice and seconded by Maribeth Dono. No opposition.

XI. Committee Notes

24. Development – Dempsey Rice: Individuals should reach out to Sara Gonzalez to thank her for her generous support.
25. Save the Arts (Silent and Online Auctions)- Isa Hererra: Online auction starts November 2nd and runs through the 11th; parents can preview the items online. The event and silent auction is on November 16th at the Picnic House and is being catered by The Moveable Feast. Big Nose, Full Body is sponsoring the wine. It's not too late to donate exciting items!
26. Literacy Week – Jody Drezner-Alperin and Megan Niam: This year it's literacy weeks (11/5-11/16). Volunteers needed.
27. Grandparents' Day – Ali Hodin-Baier: invitations to come.
28. Lice Removal – Nancy Berson: a demonstration on how to remove lice is being held on November 9th. Also, we saw good results after the last re-check (only 32 of 100 still had challenges).
29. Harvest Day – Maribeth Dono: Scheduled for October 31st. Volunteers needed.
30. Dance Class – Jane Kotapash: PS 10 parents should come dance every Friday morning! Free babysitting and a suggested donation of \$5.
31. School Store/Sales – Jody Drezner-Alperin: travel coffee mugs and t-shirts go on sale next week.

XII. Other

32. An arts and education meeting will take place on December 6th between 6:30-7:30pm.
33. There is a December 9th meeting with State Senator Eric Adams, who wants to meet with parents and tour the school.

XIII. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm – Jody Drezner-Alperin made the motion and Velma McKenzie seconded it.