



P.S. 10 PTA
General Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 15, 2015

Location: P.S. 10 Auditorium

Executive Board Members in Attendance: Hope Moriki, Simone Ollen, Deborah Nocella, Omar Karim, Megan Nyhan, Velma McKenzie, Andrew Rosenberg, Jane Kotapish, Rebecca Trevethan, Katherine Kercher

The meeting was called to order at 6:17 pm.

- I. Visit from Kaden Sun from the office of NYC Council Member Carlos Menchaca. Three community issues he wanted to share with PS 10.
 1. IDNYC. IDs for New Yorkers starting at age 14. The cards are free and have many benefits at museums, libraries, and more.
 2. Tax Preparation. For certain income levels, individuals and families can get free tax prep and file for free.
 3. President Obama's Immigration Action. This executive action allows undocumented immigrants to stay in the country and not be extradited if they arrived in the US before 2010 and they are under the age of 16. Will start in February for children and May for parents.
- II. Approval of December Minutes. Megan Nyhan made the first motion; Andrew Rosenberg seconded. All in favor.
- III. Principal's Report – Denise Watson
 1. Academic Intervention Services (AIS) is up and running with 2 people for each grade.
 2. Girls' bathroom is almost done and the boys' bathroom renovation should start next week.
 3. Auditorium at K280 is now on our lease. See Ms. Adele if you'd like to use it for an event, as it must be permitted. Will work well for some events, the space holds 1500.
 4. Mr. Ellis and Mr. Waisome are investigating a sound system for the K280 auditorium. Graduation will be held at there on June 19th at 9:30am.
 5. Student of The Week is back. Students campaigned for it.
 6. Saturday school is starting January 31st for Grades 3 – 5. Additional funding was received for this program. Will run 9:30 am – 12:30 pm.
 7. \$10,000 more needed for electrical work, to move the computer lab. Total now \$150K up from \$140K.
 8. Carlos Menchaca's office has given PS 10 an additional \$35K for the auditorium renovation.
 9. Pre-K and K online registration. Look for Magnet School (PS 10). K280 is attached to PS 10 on the website.
 10. Chess Program
 - i. There are more kids than spots for chess.
 - ii. Program will possibly only be for 2nd grade as the grant was written for 2nd grade.
 - iii. Only three staff members at this time. Perhaps parents could help so that there are enough adults/teachers.
 - iv. Grades 3 – 5 will be affected. More information to come.
 11. Grade 3 Recorder Program. Third grade does not have music. Teachers have asked Ms. Scott if their classes could do the recorder program again.
- IV. Treasurers' Report—Andrew Rosenberg
 1. Direct Appeal. November was slow but December was a big month for this line item. We are now 3/4 of the way for this year's budget.

2. Auction. \$65K income finally shows the true amount for this event.
3. Added expense lines to match income lines for the following items: 2nd Grade Swim Class (line 7096) and Chess (line 7125).

V. Afterschool Treasurers' Report—Deborah Nocella

1. AS program did well in December, raising \$29K despite the many expenses that month.
2. \$7800 in scholarships awarded to ten families.
3. Program is on track to make \$60-\$80K.
4. \$780 fine paid to the Department of Labor following an audit. PS 10 PTA was a conduit for paying a school professional instead of going through the DOE as is required.

VI. Old Business

1. Title One Funds—Velma McKenzie presenting for Caroline Dorsen
 - i. Surveys were sent out to parents to gauge how the allotted \$6K should be spent on parent engagement.
 - ii. 177 surveys returned.
 - iii. Top results of survey include middle school application help, literacy, and text alerts to parents regarding important dates.
 - iv. These requests may be realized in late spring and fall 2015 with buses to middle schools and podcasts of basic math, science, and literacy concepts.

VII. New Business—Velma McKenzie

1. Snow Blowers
 - i. Custodial staff has asked for many years for snow blowers for the school.
 - ii. Their first choice is a ride on blower priced at \$24K. Traditional blowers are \$1500-\$1800 each.
 - iii. If the PTA purchases snow blower(s), the playground must be plowed, salted, and no cars parked there. Administration has agreed to not park cars there.
 - iv. Hiring a snow removal service costs \$400 each time.
 - v. Question for parent raised as to why the custodial budget can't pay for the blower(s).
 - vi. Jane Kotapish made a motion to spend up to \$3,000 for snow removal. Jodi Alperin seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.
2. Chess Program Discussion
 - i. A parent commented about how chess is such a demanded activity. Question: Could the Title One Funds be used for this? Answer: No, the \$6K must be used for parent engagement.
 - ii. Jodi Alperin noted that Off The Page is currently a line item in the budget though those funds will not be used for that purpose. She recommends using this money for chess.
 - iii. Additional queries: Could parents volunteer to be chess masters? Could middle school students teach?
3. MoMath Mobile Exhibit
 - i. Cathy Havlicek (PS 10 Math Coach) and Kathy Blozy (Parent Math Club leader) have proposed hiring this mobile exhibit created and run by The Museum of Mathematics.
 - ii. Grades 3 -5 visit the museum via the subway, but grades K – 2 do not get to go.
 - iii. Idea is to have the mobile exhibit during testing so the lower grades can get out of the school.
 - iv. Exhibit costs \$1,810 per day and includes a MoMath educator. 30-35 kids are in the exhibit at one time.
 - v. PTA proposes having exhibit for two days (\$3,160), thereby also allowing for a family night event. PTA to fund \$2,500 and Title One and PS 10's entertainment budget can hopefully cover the rest.
 - vi. Jodi Alperin made a motion for the PTA to pay \$2500 for this MoMath Exhibit. Hope Moriki seconded. With 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention, the motion passed.
4. Vision Zero Youth Council—presented by PS 10 students

- i. This council created to promote traffic safety. Started by an ex-MS 51 student.
- ii. Ideas include speed cameras, more crossing guards and to have traffic lights last longer.
- iii. The council has a Facebook page.
- iv. Next council meeting is in February. More kids invited to attend, open to 4th & 5th graders.
- v. Will put next meeting time on the PS 10 Newsflash and school website.

VIII. Committee Reports

1. Fifth Grade Committee—Paula Horowitz
 - i. Movie Night is Friday, January 23rd, featuring the movie “Ghostbusters.” This is a fundraiser for fifth grade expenses. Café at 5:30 pm.
 - ii. Upcoming 5th grade events include a dance party at Grand Prospect Hall and Field Day at Brooklyn Bridge Park.
2. Afterschool—Velma McKenzie
 - i. AS surveys went out. Received 24 responses online in December. Just sent out also via class parents. Please respond if you haven’t yet.
 - ii. Results so far report most kids and parents are satisfied.
 - iii. Velma has spoken with staff and teachers and the feedback was consistent. Improvement in organization and communication is needed.
 - iv. After another week final results will be tabulated and reported back to parents.
3. PS 10 Rocks—Velma McKenzie
 - i. Event is Friday, February 27th.
 - ii. Call for talent, looking for acts. Contact Hatshepsut Shaw for more info.
 - iii. Also Committee meeting tomorrow morning after drop-off.
4. Barnes and Noble Fundraiser—Megan Nyhan
 - i. Fun event with lots of participation.
 - ii. Raised \$2300!
5. S.T.E.A.M. Maker Fair—Megan Nyhan
 - i. Event is May 2nd.
 - ii. Volunteers are needed. Please help out.
6. Farmigo—Jane Kotapish
 - i. Organic, artisanal, local foods delivered for you to PS 10.
 - ii. Free sign up and free delivery. PS 10 makes 10%.
 - iii. Order deadline is Thursday nights at midnight. Use code FRESH30 to receive 30% off your first order.
7. Adult Movement—Jane Kotapish
 - i. MELT session is tomorrow, Friday. Great for relaxing and detox.
 - ii. Only \$10 suggested donation.
8. Literacy Committee
 - i. Readathon focus for 4 weeks.
 - ii. This event is a big earner for the PTA.

IX. “What’s On Your Mind?”

1. Maddie Seide gave a shout out to Ms. Watson for her help when she threw her back out!

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 am. Hope Moriki made the first motion. Megan Nyhan seconded.