



PS 10 PTA
General Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 18, 2014

Location: PS 10 Auditorium

Executive Board Members in Attendance: Velma McKenzie, Tyndall Arrasmith, Simone Ollen, Andrew Rosenberg, Deborah Nocella, Jane Kotapish, Megan Nyhan, Omar Karim, Rebecca Trevethan, Hatshepsut Shaw, Lisette Castro, Hope Moriki, RoseAnn Ciarlante, Natiea Cannon

The meeting was called to order at 6:16 pm.

- I. Welcome and video presentation. Meeting started with a viewing of “We are 10,” a video produced by PS 10 parents.
- II. Approval of the June General Meeting Minutes. Carolyn Hamilton made a motion to approve the minutes. Ali Hodin-Baier seconded. All were in favor.
- III. Principal’s Report—Laura Scott
 1. Thank you for all that you do for PS 10’s community and our kids.
 2. Curriculum night went very well, with a K-5 session in the auditorium and a Pre-K session in lunchroom.
 3. Parent teacher nights coming up soon in November.
 4. First Fridays starting Oct. 3rd. K-5 will be allowed to go upstairs for the first Friday of each month for reading/arranged activity with your child. Parent coffee is immediately after with a topic discussed based on what parents want to know about.
 5. Bathrooms renovation starting on Monday.
 6. Pre-K Annex
 - i. There are currently seven sections with probably two more classes opening in the next few weeks.
 - ii. Early morning drop off and afterschool at the Pre-K Annex is run by Kids Orbit and Kips Bay YMCA. PS 10 After School program may be involved, we’ll see.
 - iii. Some parents have voiced concerns regarding staff being stretched between PS 10 and the Annex. PS 10 may be getting a new Asst. Principal to provide additional support.
 7. Class Articulation. Teachers work hard to balance the classes with an equal number of strugglers, above average and average students. Sometimes new students are enrolled over the summer and then the classes must be rebalanced; families notified by letter.
 8. Recess
 - i. Though having three lunch/recess periods was considered, we will stay with two periods.
 - ii. Tried out the three periods schedule with the fourth grade but individuals eating at 1:30 pm were starving and it’s also difficult for aides since they have to eat after the three periods.
 9. Assembly member Jim Brennan has given \$125K from discretionary funds to PS 10. Administration is looking for suggestions as to what to do with money.
 10. There is no morning school because we start so early at 8:20am. We will have sessions for small groups of students starting at 7:45am, by invitation. Not only for strugglers.
- IV. Introduction of the Executive Board members. PS 10 Executive Board members in attendance stood to introduce themselves to the general membership.
- V. Special Presentation—Kids in the Game (KITG).
 1. Michael Murphy, founder of KITG, along with a colleague, presented their organization to the membership.
 2. Parents volunteer to help out at lunch and recess though that can be difficult. Important for children to have free play but help is needed.

3. KITG come to school to help with the transition from classroom to lunch to recess to back to the classroom. Other schools using them have seen fewer instances of bullying, fewer nurse office visits. A cool down included so that students come back to class ready to learn.
4. KITG is at 27 schools in NYC currently. Different offerings include recess program, afterschool sports, and PE classes. See Kidsinthegame.com for more information.
5. Question from parents
 - i. Q: Is there a specific type of activity set and is there a free play option?
A: Yes, there is always free play. Also, there are zones for different activities, which would be listed on a calendar. 4 or 5 organized games.
 - ii. Q: What is the cost?
A: For 183 days cost is \$14,400 per coach. For recess program it is 2-4 coaches each day.
 - iii. Q: What are the games played?
 - iv. Q: We do inclusive games such as gaga ball in which everyone is active. This is important otherwise usually only the dominant kids who take the ball are getting to play much. Go to the video online to see the games in action.
 - v. Q: What happens on inclement weather days?
A: It depends on the school; however, the staff is skilled at indoor recess as well. A calendar would list games for inclement weather days.
 - vi. Q: Is TV used?
A: No.
 - vii. Q: Is the staff consistent? Would it be the same coaches from day to day?
A: Yes, there would be continuity with the staff.

VI. Afterschool Treasurer's Report—Deborah Nocella and Hope Moriki

1. Actuals budget presented, ending in June. Afterschool made \$36K in profit, which was transferred to the PTA budget. New rule is that after June, excess money is transferred to the PTA budget. Will happen once each year.
2. Parent question: Is profit planned each year? Answer: Money must be built into the budget for unforeseen added expenses, i.e. increased permit costs, etc.
3. Parent question: Is this the first time this transfer has occurred? Answer: Yes.
4. A parent asked if PS 10 has an Amazon affiliation that earns money for PS 10. Currently, there is no affiliation but this parent agreed to look into this possibility.

VII. PTA Treasurer's Report—Andrew Rosenberg

1. Very little money in and out over the summer.
2. Tenstock did very well. Though not reflected in the report, we took in \$6400 instead of projected \$5400.
3. The \$36K transfer from AS to PTA budget is not referred to in the report.
4. The proposed budget is distributed at this meeting and then voted on in the October meeting.
 - i. New projects to vote on are Maker Faire and Fashion Show.
 - ii. Biggest expense is teacher/student ratio.
5. Parent question: Can the approved budget from June be posted online to compare to this new proposed budget? Answer: Yes, it will be posted online.
6. Stephanie Hochmann reported that spring photos actually brought in \$1K but it is not reflected in budget because the money came in over summer.

VIII. Recess: Further Questions & Discussion

1. Q: How would we pay for Kids in the Game?
2. A: Using the surplus from Afterschool plus the recess coordinator salary.
3. Q: Is this the last opportunity for discussion of recess/KITG?
4. A: No, it's not. The PTA wanted to bring this proposal and discussion to the general membership, there is a real need more adult bodies on the playground.
5. Q: Have we vetted other companies?
6. A: Yes. Kids in Orbit is a possibility, but not sure they can handle such a large school. PS 10's recess coordinator just left 2 weeks ago. RoseAnn Ciarlante has been doing this job essentially since school started. Ideas such as running club, yoga club, chess, etc., all depend on having extra hands, more parents. KITG's purpose is not to replace us but to give help, more ideas.

IX. Presidents' Report—Velma McKenzie and Tyndall Arrasmith

1. Second Grade Swim
 - i. There is a partial grant from the Y and Brad Landers has contributed \$1100 for this.
 - ii. A flyer will be in backpacks soon to ask parents to help supplement the program.
2. Chess Club
 - i. A grant from EBay has made this club possible.
 - ii. More information to come.
3. School Leadership Team (SLT)
 - i. SLT first meeting is tomorrow.
 - ii. Meets every other Friday at 7:30 am.
 - iii. Any parents can sit in on meetings, but cannot vote unless on the committee.
4. Committees Need Chairs and Volunteers. Sign up sheets in the lobby and online.
 - i. Green Committee needs a chair.
 - ii. Recess Committee always needs volunteers.
 - iii. Afterschool Committee could always use volunteers
 - iv. Grandparents Day Committee needs a chair.
5. Barnes and Noble will give a donation to PS 10 for any purchases on December 10th.
6. Tenstock
 - i. Thanks to RoseAnn and Rohi for working over the summer to make our first event so successful.
7. Photo Day is October 9.

X. Committee Reports

1. Nominating Committee—RoseAnn Ciarlante
 - i. New Parent Executive Board Election. Two new parent Executive Board members to be elected. You can elect yourself from the floor. Board members must attend Executive Board meetings once a month and are asked to participate and attend general meetings.
 - ii. Also electing a Title One Representative. As a Title One school, PS 10 must spend 1% of funds on parent engagement such as math workshops, classes geared toward parents at PS 10. Nominate yourself if interested.
2. Book Drive—Jodi Alperin
 - i. Last year's book drive for PS 67 was very successful and the kids loved it.
 - ii. Dates for this year's book drive will come out soon.
 - iii. Parents can help by donating books, sorting books, and helping deliver them via caravan.
3. Auction Committee—Katherine Kercher
 - i. Event is November 7th at the Picnic House, 7-11pm.
 - ii. Help us get donations, sign up to volunteer, get your friends to attend.
 - iii. There are amazing items, both big and little. All money goes to the school.
 - iv. There will be live, silent, and online components to the auction.
 - v. This year's theme is Havana Nights.
 - vi. Get tickets now, they sell out every year.
4. Adult Movement—Jane Kotapish
 - i. Dance class starts tomorrow, Friday, with the MELT method.
 - ii. Adult Movement series is once a week: yoga, salsa, zumba, etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm. Nancy Berson made the first motion. Jane Kotapish seconded.