



**P.S. 10 PTA
General Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 21, 2015**

Location: P.S. 10 Library

Executive Board Members in Attendance: Tyndall Arrasmith, Simone Ollen, Deborah Nocella, Megan Nyhan, Velma McKenzie, Nikki Lucas, Andrew Rosenberg, Katherine Kercher, RoseAnn Ciarlante, Lisette Castro, Cozbi Cabrera, Nancy Berson, Rohi Pandya, Natiea Cannon

The meeting was called to order at 5:42 pm.

- I. Approval of April Minutes. Stephanie Hochman made the first motion; Megan Nyhan seconded. All in favor.
- II. Principal's Report – Laura Scott
 1. The recent parent/teacher conferences were not well attended though what was presented was well done.
 2. The Science Fair was a great success.
 3. The boys' bathroom is almost complete.
 4. The computer lab is being moved down to the second floor, to room 216. 29 out of 31 new computers are already set up in new lab classroom.
 5. Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams is helping facilitate the auditorium renovation. The transfer of funds was holding things up. Funds left over from the bathroom and AC updates will be used for all the auditorium needs.
 6. Pre-K 280 and PS 10 are officially one school.
 - i. Student population will be 1400 at the two locations.
 - ii. There will be one PTA and one staff for both locations.
 - iii. A new Assistant Principal will be hired, to be dedicated to Pre-K 280.
 - iv. Most teachers (about 90%) are staying at PS 10 rather than going to Pre-K 280.
 7. Physical therapist Michael Konstalid continues to receive media attention for his design of custom furniture for special-needs students. Channel 9 came to cover his story recently.
 8. The National Dance Institute shows at our school went very well. The program funded by a grant from Carlos Menchaca's office.
 9. Thank you from the teachers for the money for the Orton-Gillingham training. 27 teachers will be getting the training. This method benefited general education kids also, not just struggling students.
 10. Musician and PS 10 parent Sam Barnfield recently reported on some music programming ideas. Felix Ortiz has offered \$50K for PS 10. Ms. Scott is now able use this funding for a school band next year.
- III. Treasurers' Report—Andrew Rosenberg
 1. Most of the April income was from direct appeal (10 for 10) and 5th Grade dues.
 2. There are still more expenses to come in for this year.
- IV. Afterschool Treasurers' Report—Deborah Nocella
 1. Net loss of \$30K this month.
 2. We are still plugging away, hoping to make our \$475K budget.
- V. PTA Executive Board 2015-16 Election—Velma McKenzie
 1. Stephanie Hochman of the Nominating Committee presented the E Board Election Slate for 2015-16 and also invited others present at the meeting to nominate themselves from the floor.
 - i. Nikki Lucas nominated herself for the position of Parent Liaison.
 - ii. Mim Ingvarson nominated herself for the position of SLT Representative.

2. Co-secretary Simone Ollen make a motion to accept the slate for next year's PTA Executive Board. Jodi Alperin seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. The slate was accepted.
3. PTA Executive Board 2015-16 Election Results:
 - Co-Presidents: Tyndall Arrasmith, RoseAnn Ciarlante
 - Co-Vice Presidents: Colleen Henckels, Megan Nyhan, Hatshepsut Shaw, Donald Norwood
 - Co-Treasurers: Simone Ollen, Andrew Rosenberg
 - Afterschool Treasurer: Hope Moriki
 - Co-Secretaries: Jane Kotapish, Jean Norton
 - Parent Liaisons: Nancy Berson, Cozbi Cabrera, Natiea Cannon, Lisette Castro, Michael Gillis, Omar Karim, Kathryn Kercher-Sjursen, Deborah Nocella, Rohi Pandya, Rebecca Trevathan, Nikki Lucas
 - Translator: Lisa Hamilton

Also elected:

- SLT Parent Member: Mim Ingvarson
- Title 1 Representative: Lara Dicus

I. Presentation of 2015-16 PTA Budget

1. \$757,600 in proposed income and expenses, for grades K – 5.
2. 2nd Grade Swim has been taken out of the budget.
3. Pre-K 280 income and expenses are on lines 12 and 13.
4. Line 44 shows \$3,000 income budgeted for a fashion show event or a progressive dinner event.
5. Line 47 shows this year's very successful STEAM Fair event.
6. Lines 50/51 show a new event idea, a teacher/staff spelling bee for professional development.
7. Line 56 is the Barnes & Noble fundraiser, which was a good fundraiser this year.
8. Line 71 is the Farmigo program, which has taken off, making \$2300 this year. Next year we'd like to run the program like a co-op with individuals taking shifts.
9. Line 101. STEM expenses budgeted for \$5,000 toward math, science project, club. Someone is needed to work on this committee.
10. Line 138, Kids in the Game expense has been increased so that they can be at our school longer, from September through April. This school year they started in November.
11. Line 140, Student/Teacher ratio reduced to \$75K from \$90K as Ms. Scott can make up the difference.
12. A question was raised as to why the second set of Teachers' gift certificates was not given out in this second half of the year. Answer: Afterschool is not making as much as anticipated. If the STEAM Fair turns out to be very profitable, the second set of gift certificates can be issued to teachers.
13. The proposed budget is presented at this meeting and will be voted on at the next General PTA meeting.

II. New Business

1. AC Update—Tyndall Arrasmith
 - i. Cost of buying AC units for half of the classrooms in the school is \$25K. Cost of outfitting all classrooms with ACs would be an additional \$20K.
 - ii. Cozbi Cabrera made a motion to take \$20K out of surplus to cover this additional cost. Chris Baier seconded. The motion passed.
2. Audit Review Summary—Deborah Nocella
 - i. The audit review went well.
 - ii. Money allocated for recycling bins has not been spent.
 - iii. Our assets and our liabilities (net assets) are balanced at \$323,832 each.
 - iv. This audit review is a public document and will be on GuideStar.
 - v. The audit committee needs people for next year.

3. eBay Grant—Chris Baier
 - i. Last year the eBay grant our school received for chess was \$3,000.
 - ii. This coming up year we'll be getting an additional \$1700, for a total of \$4700.
4. Board of Regents Meeting—Tyndall Arrasmith
 - i. Meeting is tonight in the PS 10 auditorium.
 - ii. Amy Schwartzman of the Parent Mobilization Committee has written a letter to the Board of Regents that asks to make the system fair, not relying solely on testing. Letter also asks that another company, not Pearson, be used in the future.
 - iii. PS 10 teacher Heidi Bookman commented that teachers are not afraid of being evaluated but that they want a fair system that will help them grow professionally and not something punitive.
5. Afterschool Director Position Posting—Tyndall Arrasmith
 - i. As we lost our AS Director $\frac{3}{4}$ through this year, there is a job posting to fill the position.
 - ii. Velma McKenzie has stepped in and helped with the AS program since the Director left.
6. New York International Film Festival—Stephanie Hochman
 - i. A percentage of tickets sold at the NYIFF will go to PS 10.
 - ii. PS 10 has earned \$186 from the program this year.
7. SLT Report—Heidi Bookman
 - i. Recent issues discussed have included the upcoming Board of Regents meeting, the Comprehensive Educational Plan (CEP) for the school, and the change of format for the teacher/parent conferences in May.

III. Committee Reports

1. STEAM Fair Committee—Megan Nyhan, RoseAnn Ciarlante, Rohi Pandya
 - i. The event is next weekend.
 - ii. Volunteers are really needed! Volunteer for as little as an hour or more if you can.
 - iii. Event will feature 30+ exhibitors and panel discussions.
 - iv. Support the event on social media: Twitter (@ps10steam); website (ps10steam.com); and like us on the STEAM Facebook page and make sure to tag all your friends.
2. Author Brian Selznick Visit and Hugo Film Showing was a very impressive event with a very good turnout. Thank you to Marie Edesess and all that helped for this event.
3. Grandparents Day was a great event with over 300 grandparents attending.
4. The PTA Fun Run for schools on May 9 was indeed a fun event.
5. The Progressive Dinner, PS 10's first, was a very fun and successful affair.

IV. What's on Your Mind? Nothing at the moment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00PM. Megan Nyhan made the first motion; RoseAnn Ciarlante seconded.