



**P.S. 10 PTA
General Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 18, 2015**

Location: P.S. 10 Lunchroom

Executive Board Members in Attendance: Tyndall Arrasmith, Simone Ollen, Deborah Nocella, Megan Nyhan, Velma McKenzie, Andrew Rosenberg, Nancy Berson, Jane Kotapish, Hatshepsut Shaw, Omar Karim

The meeting was called to order at 8:34 am.

- I. Approval of May minutes. Stephanie Hochman made the first motion; Emily Morgan seconded. All in favor.
- II. Treasurers' Reports
 1. PTA Treasurer—Andrew Rosenberg
 - i. \$40K came in May, mostly from STEAM Fair.
 - ii. \$11,300 is the total income to date. Final total will be about \$14,300.
 - iii. May's expenses totaled \$32K. Many more expenses coming in, at least \$85K.
 2. PTA Afterschool Treasurers—Deborah Nocella and Hope Moriki
 - i. Afterschool is doing well with a \$49K gross at this moment.
 - ii. Many independent contractor expenses—teachers and outside vendors—are coming in.
 - iii. Anyone with an outstanding balance should pay by 6/19.
 - iv. Also any outstanding check requests must be in before next Tuesday when the PTA office closes for the year.
- III. Second Grade Swim—Velma McKenzie, Ms. Glembocki & Ms. Bookman
 1. Velma McKenzie explains the PTA involvement with the swim program.
 - i. This swim program has never been a PTA initiative, has never been officially funded by the PTA and has never been part of the PTA budget.
 - ii. Last year's program was funded mostly by Councilman Brad Lander.
 - iii. The PTA doesn't drive curriculum.
 2. Ms. Glembocki and Ms. Bookman recount their experiences with the YMCA swim program.
 - i. Since Chase Bank has stopped funding it the program has deteriorated.
 - ii. Students miss three periods of instruction on swim days.
 - iii. Changes to program include having a different instructor every week, having very young instructors, and the instructors giving out wrong swimming information.
 - iv. Bussing has been very difficult. Busses haven't shown up, busses have broken down.
 - v. There are not enough parent volunteers.
 - vi. The main reason for discontinuing the program for PS 10 students is that the teachers feel it is unsafe. Many families have opted out of swimming this year because they did not feel safe in the water.
 3. PS 10 Parents add to the discussion.
 - i. Ali Hodin-Baier: The PTA does cover things that are curriculum initiatives and that swimming is a very important, vital, and life-saving skill.
 - ii. Lara Dicus: I remember when the Met Opera grant was no longer available and the PTA starting funding that.
 - iii. Marie Edesess: Can a formal complaint be logged against the YMCA?
 4. Alternative Swim Program

- i. Ms. Glembocki has spoken to the YMCA director. There are just too many schools and children participating now to make the changes needed. We are thinking of other alternatives so that the kids who really need water safety instruction will get it.
- ii. Ms. Scott is looking into an afterschool program for swimming and trying to secure funding.
- iii. Anyone who wants to join the school and Ms. Scott in the search for another program, please do.

5. SLT Report—Marie Edesess

- i. There are new members on the SLT.
- ii. A subcommittee is working to improve communication between 5th grade families and PS 10 regarding middle school applications.
- iii. Other issues discussed recently include 2nd grade swim and school safety. Some parents are not being respectful and going into classrooms unannounced. Also working on trip safety with an idea to launch from the cafeteria so that teacher can give safety protocols to parent chaperones and children.

IV. Principal's Report— Laura Scott

1. Collaborations between K280 and PS 10 are taking place. PS 10 3rd graders recently brought over snails to K280 to teach the children.
2. Auditorium renovation. Eric Adams's office initiated the start of auditorium construction including a sound system, new wood floors on stage and new seats. Some of the funds left over from bathroom renovations were rolled into the auditorium renovation. All should be completed by November.
3. There were more than 12 middle school appeals, which is a lot. Middle schools are trying to accommodate our students. Parent Marie Edesess is spearheading the concept of introducing middle school to 4th graders and perhaps develop a website specifically for it.
4. Kindergarten orientation was very successful. There are currently 639 children on the wait list including our sibling families.
5. Testing. 12% of our students opted out. Students did well overall. Teachers worked very hard on the math curriculum with math binders and not one student in 5th grade failed the math test.
6. Summer Water Safety Program. Ms. Scott will investigate to see if perhaps this program can be extended into an afterschool program in the fall so that children across the grades can receive instruction.

V. Vote on 2015-16 PTA Budget

1. There were no questions regarding the proposed budget.
2. Simone Ollen made a motion to pass the budget. Marie Edesess seconded. All were in favor, no abstentions. The budget passed.

VI. New Business

1. Air Conditioning Update—Tyndall Arrasmith
 - i. Clearview, the AC company, is coming tomorrow to measure. Looking at having all ACs being installed in July so that all is in place by the fall.
2. Board of Regents Update—Amy Schwartzman
 - i. By a vote of 11 to 6, the Board of Regents approved the new evaluation system weighted as such: 50% test results and 50% observations.
 - ii. Though the law won't impact NYC schools until 2018, the vote is very disappointing and we should register our dismay. Stay tuned for more information.

VII. Committee Reports

1. STEAM an incredible success!
2. Tenstock and Auction events need people to start working over the summer. Please help.
3. Author Committee—Marie Edesess
 - i. A very generous grandparent at PS 10 has donated \$5,000 - \$7,000 in past years, allowing the committee to buy mini libraries for classes for visiting authors' books. We'll have this

donation next year but not sure after that. Please put your feelers out to see if someone else would like to help in this way.

ii. Graphic Novel Artist Panel. Event idea for next year during the winter.

iii. There was a surplus this year, so the committee is giving each of our school's 46 teachers a \$75 to the Community Book Store.

VIII. What's on Your Mind?

1. Salute to Velma McKenzie, Tyndall Arrasmith and all the Executive Board.

2. A big thank you to Velma for all you've done for PS 10 and all parents throughout your years at the school!

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 am. Lara Dicus made the first motion; Megan Nyhan seconded.