



## October PTA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**Date, Time, and Location: Wednesday, October 17, 2018, 6:00pm, Auditorium.**

### Board Members Present:

Aisha Johnson (President), Ben Millard (Co-Treasurer), Jen Skoda (Co-VP of Development), Kim Gleason (VP of Extended Day), Alison Galiley, Tim Wilkins (Co-Recording Secretaries), Angela Pennyfeather (Communications Secretary), Ann Henry and Tonya Taylor (Co-VPs of Community Involvement)

### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by President, Aisha Johnson, at 6:10pm

### PTA President's Welcome- Aisha Johnson [ptapresident@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:ptapresident@ps133brooklyn.org)

Good turnout, thank you all for coming. Jamaican food to share, prepared by cooking enthusiast and PS 133 parent, Tracy McTaggart. Please help yourself!

Order of business reviewed. General meetings are once a month, alternating morning and evening times.

Announcement by Maya from Caracol interpreter services in Sunset Park; offering Spanish translation services for all P.S. 133 PTA meetings. Let us know if you need translation assistance. Hand signals reviewed: "slow down, raise your voice (speak up), one at a time."

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT- Heather Foster-Mann

- From now through December 31st the school is required to perform 8 evacuation drills, one of which is a soft lockdown. Your children may be sharing what they heard or experienced during the drill with you. These drills are mandated by the NYC DOE. Kids will be huddled for 5-10 minutes with the shades drawn and the window on the door covered.
- Information packets for the upcoming Gifted and Talented test have gone out. The deadline to register is November 9th.
- Student led conferences are coming up. Sign up for a time slot through Sign-up Genius. Your child must attend. Conferences are 15 minutes each.
- We are looking to "Go Green". Asking for parent volunteer(s) to develop an app that will allow the school to push reminders and notifications to parents. Reduce the amount of paper being printed and circulated.
- Test scores came out. Check your child's "student account" by ID number for individual results for the upper grades. The school increased scores by up by 10% in math, and ELA up by 12% since last year, which was the goal. The goal for next year is to improve by another 10%!

**READING + APPROVAL OF September 2018 MEETING MINUTES** No abstentions or objections. Reading waived. Accepted.

## TO BE APPROVED BY MEMBERSHIP

### **PTA President's Report-** Aisha Johnson [ptapresident@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:ptapresident@ps133brooklyn.org)

- Dine and Donate on Thursday, November 15th. Half day for student conferences. Take your kids out to eat and raise money for the school at pick up or after conference.
- Picture Day with Stomping Ground 10/25, 10/26. We need volunteers. You can sign up on our website, [brooklynps133.org](http://brooklynps133.org), volunteer tab. We have just under 800 kids at the school, so we need help. The sale of pictures is a fundraising opportunity for the school. Get pictures in time for the holidays.
- Fun Fridays, calendar on the website and in our weekly newsletter. The cafeteria transforms into a fun space. Suggested donation \$ 3-5. It's a good time. There are concessions and pizza for sale.
- World Culture Day on Monday 11/19. It's a short week, before Thanksgiving. We hope to get teachers there now that it is not on a Friday. Potluck, dancing. Started off with Hispanic Heritage month and expanded to include all cultures. Committee is asking for parent volunteers such as African drummers, dancers, etc. Planning phase. This is our 3rd event. Next LCD committee meeting 10/25.
- We have new merchandise to sell. Do your kids have any of our sweatshirts, hoodies, t shirts? School pride day during Spirit week.
- Books for sale by author Matt De La Pena, Carmela Full of Wishes. Readathon, support reading at PS 133!

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Communications Committee- Angela Pennyfeather** [communications@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:communications@ps133brooklyn.org)

- Follow us on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook. Committee is looking for volunteer graphic designers.
- We may be taking photos of your in the school kids to post.

#### **Extended day committee- Kim Gleason** [extendedday@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:extendedday@ps133brooklyn.org) / [playlabvp@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:playlabvp@ps133brooklyn.org)

- Notice to all Playlab parents, next week is observation week. Check your email to sign up, 2 days prior, so you can observe what kids are doing in the class.
- PLaylab is looking into vendors for next term.
- Committee needs volunteers.

#### **Fundraising committee- Jen Skoda, Tyeesha McDonal (Co-VP development)** [development@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:development@ps133brooklyn.org)

- "Dine and Donate" coming up on Thursday, November 15th. Partnerships set up with local restaurants (last year it was with the Shake Shack), so a portion of the sale goes back to PS 133. Stay tuned for details.
- Thank you to everyone who purchased Tea clothing through the school partnership promo.
- Be on the lookout for holiday promos.
- PS 133 Amazon link donates back 4-6% to the school. Bookmark it so that you use it every time you purchase on Amazon.

## *TO BE APPROVED BY MEMBERSHIP*

- Annual appeal. Biggest fundraiser of the year. Look for the yellow envelope, goes all through November. Your donations fund art, theater, residencies. Costs for the classroom. Think about what your family is able to give. Cost per student is approx \$350. We are hoping to raise \$100,000 by the end of the year. Contributions touch every student in some way.
- Ask your employer about charitable matching gifts.
- Parent mixer, maybe November 3rd, as a part of the appeal. Keep an eye out for the notice in a few weeks.
- We have a date for the auction, May 11th. We will need volunteers to help out.
- Bake sale every first Friday.
- Marathon day, come on by! Bake sale happening. Buy school merchandise!

Question: What about creating a partnership with Fairway?

Answer: We are looking at many different partnerships. We want people to pay attention to the ones that will bring in the most amount of money for the school.

### **Community Involvement Committee- Tonya Taylor, Ann Henry** - [development@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:development@ps133brooklyn.org)

- Fun Friday flyer went out in folders. Put the dates in your calendar. Great activity for the kids.

### **Garden committee – Kara Zimmerman** / [garden@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:garden@ps133brooklyn.org)

- Committee is still looking for a leader. Needs parent volunteers.
- Garden needs some TLC and direction.
- We are looking to broaden the teacher's use of the garden.
- PS 133 plots need signage or some form of delineation from D75 plots.
- Garden committee could organize Christmas tree mulching for the community after the holiday.

### **Language + cultural diversity committee- Tim Wilkens** / [escuela@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:escuela@ps133brooklyn.org)

- We are a multicultural, multilingual school.
- Ana Bartolome is offering free ESL classes for adults on Mondays.
- Language is a barrier to co-participation, and we are here to help.
- World Culture Night is the committees' signature event.
- Ana will be covering the committee for Tim while he is out during the elections.
- Next meeting: Thursday 10/25/18- 8:30 am

### **Performing arts committee- Esra Dayani** / [performingarts@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:performingarts@ps133brooklyn.org)

- Tentative Timeline for PS 133 Players Spring Musical (for 4th and 5th Grades) pending final approval: Early Nov: Sign-ups for Auditions; Dec: Auditions; Jan: Thursday rehearsals begin - after school until 5pm
- PS 133 Players Spring Musical (show TBD): Fri, May 17th at 6:30pm and Sat, May 18th at 2pm
- Ms. Davis is the only drama teacher in the school. She is currently an art liaison with the DOE.
- The committee will need volunteers for rehearsals

### **TREASURER'S REPORT- Ben Millard (Assistant treasurer)** [ptatreasurer@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:ptatreasurer@ps133brooklyn.org)

- We are doing well as a business.

*TO BE APPROVED BY MEMBERSHIP*

- We will be working on the annual appeal.
- Financials look good.

**Point of Order- Ana Bartolome, Ad HOC Committee, Resources for Learning Differences (RLD)**

- What type of learner are you? Everyone learns differently.
- We can help parents with kids that learn in different ways. Traditional school structure teaches to a common type of learner. We want to provide a space to support the student and the teachers.
- Ms. Henkins and Ms. McCloud have offered their guidance and support.
- Next meeting is 10/26 at 8:30 am. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Community Involvement Committee- Tonya Taylor, Ann Henry**  
[development@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:development@ps133brooklyn.org)

- Did You Know? newsletter will continue. Discuss different cultural /national holidays.
- Committee mission is to nurture the community.
- Unicef boxes went home. Get the kids involved and collect change on Halloween.

Question: Son(s) of parents in attendance had to stand outside (getting soaked) during a heavy rain after getting dropped off in the yard by the bus. "What can the school do to accommodate kids coming off of the bus in the morning and going into the yard? The kids need to wait until their teachers come to get them." They are outside in the elements during inclement weather. "Can we investigate this?"

Answer: Get more parents involved to express this concern in an organized and uniform way to admin. Kids of working parents doing early drop off are affected as well. Unofficially, kids may enter into the lobby through the front of the building. Need to get number of kids affected from Ms. Quintero. There isn't anyone who can watch the kids, however.

Question: Daughter of parents in attendance was hit in the face with a ball in the yard. "Are balls in the yard appropriate? It is small space. Kids get hurt."

Answer: We need to discuss this issue with Mr. Ratner and Kids Orbit.

**NEXT MEETING:** November 14th, 2018 @ 8:30am

**ADJOURNMENT:** 7:28pm by the President. Thank you for showing up. Keep coming. We need your help!

Minutes compiled by Alison Galiley, Recording Secretary

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