



## March PTA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**Date, Time, and Location: Wednesday, March 20th, 2019, 8:30am, cafeteria**

### **Board Members Present:**

Aisha Johnson (President), Max Duykers (Treasurer), Jen Skoda (Co-VP of Development), Angela Pennyfeather (Secretary of Communications), Alison Galiley and Tim Wilkins (Co-Recording Secretary), Ann Henry (Co-VP of Development), Seri Entel (VP of Development).

**(At least 8 association members, including a minimum of 2 board members and 6 parent members present; a quorum was reached.)**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by President, Aisha Johnson, at 8:33 am

### **2. READING + APPROVAL OF February 2019 MEETING MINUTES**

No abstentions or objections. Motion passes.

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

- I invite you all to the next executive board meeting on Friday 3/29 at 8:30am. Come out if you want to know what is going on in the school. Parents on the board collaborate with the school leaders to get things accomplished.
- Get excited for the upcoming Readathon which starts Friday 4/19 and goes for 10 days! Encourages reading stamina and a varied "reading diet". Everyone can find something to read and enjoy. Cultivates school spirit.
  - Kicks off with a gift from the PTA for every student
  - Promoting the "5/10 challenge" which means each student will find 5 sponsors who contribute \$10.00 for at least 15 minutes of reading. Check the website for details and select the "Readathon-challenge" tab. We accept PayPal, checks or cash. Ask a neighbor, a family member, etc.
  - Author visits: Junot Diaz, Chelsea Clinton last year. We have an upcoming visit from Vera Brosgol on 4/9 for first and second graders. Pre-order the book to support the author in advance. Also makes a great gift.
    - Video of Chelsea Clinton reading "She Persisted Around the World" at PS 133 last year.

## *TO BE APPROVED BY MEMBERSHIP*

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

- Cheryl Wills, anchor at NY 1, and author of “The Emancipation of Grandpa Sandy Wills” spoke to 300 of our kids on Monday. The kids were enthralled. Each 3rd through 5th grader got a copy. Know your history.
- Letter on Parent Square about “Online Behavior”. Mostly about what kids do on their phones. Pay attention to what your kids are looking at. Media and technology can have a hold on our kids. PS 133 policy, no phone out at school. We can take it and parents can retrieve it. Ms. McCloud will address cyber-bullying and issues with social media for 4th and 5th graders. Mr. Ratner also addresses it in technology classes.
  - Question: Ann Henry, is there a block on what kids can access during school hours on their laptop? Wi-Fi is limited. Certain sites cannot be accessed. Teachers are paying attention.
- ELA test taking place April 2, 3. Pushing a 95% participation rate.
- SLT meeting, talked about class size. Class sizes will increase. Losing Title 1 status in 2021. Grandfathered in 2019-2020. \$500,000 dollars will be lost.
  - Lunch eligibility form (income verification form) will be coming. Please fill this out. We need to get an idea of where we stand.
  - Funded per student, not per teacher.
- Second adult in most classroom. Partnerships with various teachers colleges (Hunter, Brooklyn College). High school and college students (internships) assist in the classroom.
  - What is the total school budget? This is public information, you can access it through DOE/statistics.
- DLP classes are historically a lower class size. It is hard to recruit/ maintain native speakers. Families move or drop out of the program at around 2nd grade. The integrity of the program relies on a 50/50 mix of native to non-native speakers.
- ELL is only about 5% of the entire student body. Approx. 30 kids.

#### **4. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

***Nominating Committee Co-chair Amber Graham, Kara Zimmerman: [nominations@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:nominations@ps133brooklyn.org)***

- Committee needs volunteers! Please let us know if you can help in any way.
- Push out communications, run the election, bios, pictures, etc...
- 2 year term limit. Every year all positions are open.

***Extended day committee- Megan Carrerer and Christa Rimmonneau***  
***[extendedday@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:extendedday@ps133brooklyn.org) / [playlabvp@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:playlabvp@ps133brooklyn.org)***

- Free Play Lab class is being offered for a parent volunteer to come in to help out on a Wednesday or Friday (preferably) every week for the rest of the session. Let us know if you can commit.
- Open House coming up, April 1st, sign up to come view the classroom activities.
- Committee needs volunteers for the end of the year showcase.
- Let us know if you have any suggestions for new vendors for next year.

## *TO BE APPROVED BY MEMBERSHIP*

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

- The school calendar is now on Parent Square. It will sync with RSS to your own calendar.
- Committee needs new members for next year. It's fun!
- Thank you for following us and tweeting with us.
  - Next meeting: April 2nd at 8:30am.

**Announcement:** 5th Grade chair-Alicia Quigley: Letters have gone out for the end of year trip to Club Getaway. Dues are lower this year. HFM has agreed to pick up the tab to keep the fee down to 75\$ per family. All kids will be covered with the help of the school and the PTA.

### **Development Committee- Seri Entel / [development@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:development@ps133brooklyn.org)**

- Thank you for your participation in the Dine and Donate day. Movie night is coming up, please join us.
  - Elizabeth Lahart: Continue bringing in your Box Tops, they really do add up. There is no competition this year, we are all on the same team. Drop off in lobby.
- Tracy-Ann Vetter, Auction Chair/ Gala committee
  - Need help with procurement of auction items. We have a sample solicitation letter. Places you frequent (coffee shops, flower shops...). Or experiences or classes. There is a master list.
  - Tickets still available for early bird prices.
  - Need help on the day of from 3-6pm for set up, and then after the event to break down.
- Thank you to Tracy, Ann, and Kara for the teachers appreciation lunch. They were very happy.

### **Grant committee – Kara Zimmerman**

- We have already spent \$5,300 of grant money , with a remaining \$2,600 left to spend.
- Check in with your child's teacher, there are classrooms remaining that are in need of support.

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

- This is my last year on the committee. If you want to see more cultural events at the school next year, please step up and volunteer to be on the committee.
- There will be an immigration workshop in Spanish and English on 4/16 called "Know Your Rights". Spread the word.
- Another Iftar breakfast will be held on 4/30, before Ramadan, in the cafeteria after drop-off.
- We had Desayuno, Spanish breakfast, in February.
- Open library hours include stories in English, French, and Spanish.

Next meeting: Thursday, 3/28 @ 9:30am

### **Treasurer's Report- Max Duykers [treasurer@ps133brooklyn.org](mailto:treasurer@ps133brooklyn.org)**

*TO BE APPROVED BY MEMBERSHIP*

- We are hitting the marks for annual appeal, merchandise sales, and bake sales.
- Dance parties are on budget and doing well.
- Amazon revenue is easy money for the school.
- First budget Committee meeting was on 3/15 at 8:30am.
- Financial report circulated.
  - Motion to approve, second, no objections or abstentions. Motion passes.

**Performing arts committee- Esra Dayani (emailed)** / performingarts@ps133brooklyn.org

- Committee is seeking people with sound and lighting experience for theater tech volunteers
- Looking for discounted musical and/or dance troupe show Program Ads that relate to the community/camps/workshops etc. Due by \*April 12th\*.
- May 11th: Musical Tech Day: Committee needs snack/juice and pizza donations.
- May 16, and 17: \*PS133 Players\* \*Aristocats\* evening shows; will need volunteers to help with concessions.
- June 2nd: 3rd grade \*Creative Stages\* show: Matilda by Roald Dahl.
- June 5th \*One Vision Dance Troupe\* Show; will need volunteers for concessions.
- TBA: 2nd Grade \*S'Cool Sounds\* Presentation

Next meeting: TBA

**NEXT GENERAL PTA MEETING:** April 17, 2018, 6:00 pm Auditorium

**ADJOURNMENT:** 9:26 am by the President.

Minutes compiled by Alison Galiley, Recording Secretary

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