

PS 198M Parent Teacher Association Meeting

Minutes for November 18, 2016 Meeting

Meeting Start Time: 7:38am

Meeting End Time: 8:30am

Location Room M1

There were 28 Attendees present at the meeting which includes 4 Teachers and Administration.

Principal's Report

1. Election Results

Principal McManus discussed how the Presidential results have been affecting the climate of the school and students. She assured that as students express any fears, anxieties, and questions to staff they are addressed accordingly. She discussed how teachers are working with students to best support them.

2. How 198 Supports Kids

Principal McManus discussed how teachers are addressing any issues presented by students and offered resource of RAK (Random Acts of Kindness) and Project Excel. Both are resources on the school website to utilize.

3. How Families Can Support Kids

Principal McManus discussed ways families can support their kids at home through open and ongoing discussions to address any fears, anxieties, and questions that arise. She added monitoring of what kids are exposed to on the media and educating them on what they may see/hear from other sources outside home

4. Alumni Night

Principal McManus discussed specifics of Alumni Night and involvement of former PS198 students regarding the event. Former alumni students from 3 city middle schools will come back to talk with current students and help address questions about what their middle school is like and about transitioning to middle school.

PTA President Report

1. International Night- Discussion on the need to 'keep the ball rolling' regarding getting the word out about upcoming International Night Event on January 19th. Donations and volunteers are still needed to make this a success!

2. Soul Cycle - Teachers are supporting this December 1st event! Some classes are raising money to sponsor teachers. Continue to spread the word; Social Media is a great resource!
3. Gift Cards - Announcement of Gift Card Drive begins December 4th
4. Garden Committee - Update on landscaping the school courtyard through volunteerism of students as well as adults. Georgia will be spearheading this event.
5. Auction- In the Wild Theme. The push has started to try and get donations now if you can. Georgia overseeing.
5. New Event Submission Forms - New process to officially submit any ideas for the Principal and PTA which is to complete submission forms that will be posted on the school website. All completed forms will go first to PTA Election Board for review. Once considered viable then submission goes to Principal McManus for approval. Anyone that has ideas please be ready to 'own' those ideas if approved to move forward with them. Form is in development and will be created and posted soon on our website.
6. Treasurer Report - Annual Fund is currently at \$18000. But this amount is only 6% of our goal! We need every family contribution and donations considered a tax write off and this end of year time is perfect to do this and get a tax write-off.
7. Other fundraiser updates- Monster Book Fair raised \$6000. Thank you to Holly and Yasemin. Pie Drive raised \$1000, selling over 150 pies! 15 Brownies were donated to Stanley Isaacs- thanks to our families support. After school Catalogue Drive raised \$3000. Box Top Drive has raised \$700. Please make sure box tops are not expired, because no money is raised for those. Popcorn Fun raised \$1000.

Open Forum

1. Discussion on coordinating a Green Team for recycling projects within the school. Recycling in the lunchroom as well as in the classrooms during snack time was discussed.
2. Fantastic Kids Fundraiser- Thank you to Randi for arranging for this. Reminder of upcoming Shop and Save Fundraiser event and informing store of PS198 code and PS 198 affiliation for 10% savings and 10% earned back to our school. In-Store purchases, phone orders and even gift cards qualify for 10% off and earning 10% to our school. Katharine reminded families as part of our RAK and healthy play, to try to get some items on recess and rainy day activities wish list and donate to the school if you can.
3. A parent who is a Child Psychologist will be at Fantastic Kids store on Sunday to assist on games to purchase. We are in need of games to be donated for rainy school days.

Meeting Ended at 8:30 am

