

PTA General Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2016
8:05a - 8:52a

There were 30 attendees including parents and administration.

I. Principal Report (From Katharine Macmanus)

1. **Quality Review Process:** Starting this week, the DOE will begin their quality review process over 2 days and look at everything from instruction in the classrooms, student work, observations of classrooms and students, and talking to students about how they feel about the work and school and also to parents to find their thoughts about the school and community. They will also review our process and procedures. Katharine asked families to please be mindful that they will be there. An official report will be prepared and available for families to see the review rating in the coming months.

2. **Parent Teacher Conferences-** November 3rd: There will not be a formal report card but rather standard progress reports will be administered to families sharing feedback on how students are performing, what are the grade level standards. They will not receive a proficiency grade but rather an assessment showing how the student is doing in reading, writing, math and strategies and goals for success from the teacher for each student. These will be 10 minute meetings with the teachers. Schedules will be administered in the near future for each class.

3. **Open School Week - Week of November 14th:** Parents will have an opportunity to visit the specialist classes this week (i.e. gym, science, technology, music, art, etc) to see their children, and the classes. At the end of the week, will be Family Friday with the children's regular class. Just a reminder, almost every month we have Family Friday, an opportunity to see your children's regular class environment, as well as Family Engagement Tuesdays in afternoon to speak with teachers if they have any questions or concerns.

4. **Family Literacy Presentation-** Wednesday morning there will be a presentation workshop to go over expectations for reading and the focus on comprehension. While generally geared toward grades 3-5, any family with a child level K and up are eligible for assessment and their families are invited to attend. This scholastic independent reading assessment focuses on more comprehension and retention understanding techniques— how to read and write about the book. A .PPT will be made available in the coming weeks on the school website. Again this is what the standards and our school approach will now look like and how we define our standards.

5. **Prof. Dev. Consultant Update Workshops-** Barbara Golub met with our teachers and feedback has been very successful so far and teachers benefit and this in turn benefits instruction. One teacher commented that it was a great first experience and

hearing fellow colleagues talk about literacy was very helpful and insightful and collaborative. They will meet for grade 3-5 and back in Dec for grades K-2. Coaching will continue again in January.

II. **Presidents Report** (From Phil Horton)

1. **Election-** Last meeting, the PTA voted to amend the bi-laws and allow for a max of 3 people in each of the key PTA Exec Board Roles (President, VP, Treasurer and Secretary). There was an expanded election to get 3 people in roles. Results:

a) Co-Presidents- To join Phil, the PTA voted in today Co-President Beth Pilchik and William Ulses. Since only 2 were running, no vote was needed other than to bless the nominations. Now 3.

b) Co-VPs- Joining Holly now and newly elected were Georgia Burger and Mana Marjany

c) Co-Treasurers- Joining Elaine now and newly elected were Ilyya Shell and John Walkup

d) Co-Secretaries- Joining Randi now are Mary Miele and Karen Smalls

e) (4) Add'l Delegate Seats- Since Beth moved to Co-President and since Mana moved to Co-VP, 4 seats are now open. Joining already elected Yasemin, Monica and Richard now are Lisa Rho, Ivelina Borisova and Angela Garcia

2. **SLT-** SLT also had 1 open seat. Angela Garcia and Lisa Tsatsas ran. Since 2 and only 1 seat a vote needed to happen. Each spoke. Angela got 7 votes and Lisa got 15 votes, Lisa is now in SLT.

Phil congratulated everybody joining the pta board, can't wait to work with all and this is the highest support we have gotten. TY to all that stepped up so 3 people can be in roles to make it more manageable. We operate mostly virtually and are here to offer mentoring and coaching on any role. It's going to be great year .

3. **Spooky Week begins next week-**

- Movie night will be Transylvania 2. 10/21 5-6 cafeteria snacks, 6-8 is the movie

- **Halloween Game Night-** 2-4 on 10/29 on weekend.

4. **Musical-** Beth mentioned that applications are due today for those wanting to be involved in Ms. Fisk Musical.

5. **Scholastic Book Fair- Spooky Book Fair 10/24-10/28.** Volunteers are needed. Last

year we raised 10k. Some funds went to new rugs and the rest is extra for our school programs.

6. **Picture Day- 10/27** Volunteers needed. Make sure your kids look spiffy.

7. **Storybook Character Parade- 10/28** Kids dress up in costume of their favorite book characters. Beth noted that pie samples will be given out at the parade as a tester for upcoming pie drive.

8. **Pie Drive- Begins 11/1-** Orders due 11/14 and pies can be picked up Tue before Thanksgiving. And can also be donated. This year pies will go to Stanley Isaacs Family Center.

9. **Popcorn Catalogue-** Drive is on 10/25

10. **Auction-** Georgia gave an update on the Auction. theme is Go Wild. Will tie in to all specialists as well Wild of Music, Where in the Wild Things Are (science). Lots of Committees and ways for parents to get involved. Need donations help. Stay tuned for more info.