

MINUTES FOR
PARENT ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 15, 2016

- I. Call to order
- II. Reading and Approval of Minutes
Minutes approved
- III. Principal's Report
 - a. Survey 150 families responded. Last year only 110. Less families this year b/c of duplicates, so great set of data for Principal. Done to have baseline for progress and need. Did more favorably this year and measures principal's effectiveness. Will be done again. Results:
 - i. Enjoy TCCS: 91% of families felt students enjoyed TCCS
 - ii. How well principal work to create sense of community: 65% for top two response. Principal needs growth in this area
 - iii. Feel confident about what child will learn: 76% felt confident. Room for growth
 - iv. At this school parents/guardians are greeted warmly: No one said strongly disagreed. Top two tiers: 83% . Last year we reached 70%.
 - v. Communication with families: 1 strongly disagreed. 76% for top two tiers. Looking for increase in this area.
 - b. Prek & K applic will have open house in Dec. Open house already on website. 6 open houses. Flyers sent to WHDC, CB9 and D5 and D6 and posted on website. Working on tours. 2 in am and 1 in

evening. During school day will visit prek and K, not sure about touring the whole school.

- c. Technology: ipad distributed. Lower grade got more ipad than upper grade b/c of group work. We have laptops in bldg. 2-5 will have use of laptops. Rec'd another grant. Would like every class to have laptops. Strategically placed throughout bldg. When we get new school, would also like to bring laptops with us. Another shipment coming in approx. 40 more laptops coming in. Motivating factor for kids with aversion to writing or mechanical difficulty.
- d. REP: may be extra folks at lunch time. Partnering with Asphalt Green. Done two observations to see how we can do physical activity safely. Sent school aid to be trained.
- e. ELA/Math simulated test: its an assessment not practice test. Create testing environment so not foreign to students esp. 3rd graders. Have not had any meltdowns. Using info to inform instructional decision. Info will be shared in progress report. 2 days ELA and 2 days math.
- f. Dates for Student council speeches: not enough time for student to prepare speeches. Will be had on 11/23. 1st period of day so students have time to work on speeches. Kids will be informed tomorrow.
- g. Parent question on simulation test: 2 test given this year are same and some things have not been taught yet. 2nd test will be in February so comparing same tests.
- h. Parents communicated that there needs to be better communication. Verdiner spoke with AP that needs to be mandated that progression goes home at beginning of unit. Need to work on being transparent within school with parents.

- i. Progress report will be in Dec and 2nd marking period will be in Jan.
 - j. Spacing: meeting held and Mott Hall off table. Since then, Reeves arranged to have meeting with SLT members, DC Rose (in charge of space & planning division) and Verdiner. Pressure placed on Rose for timeline. At end of week will hear proposal on timeframe, so parents and school can make decisions.
 - k. Book Study for parents: Extending invite to do reading with school. All teachers have received book called "Choice Words" about positive framing. Peter Johnston. Another way to have common language to reward desired behavior with children. Book gives concrete examples. Teachers and Verdiner covering one chapter/month. Question of how to ask children about work and making them think about it. Possibly parents and teachers can read book and share findings.
- IV. Treasurer's Report: Don't have Treasurer's report today. \$29,337. Still need to give supply grant to Principal.
- V. Co-Presidents' Report'
- a. Fundraisers: Looked at maybe doing Chuck E Cheese again this month (Made \$237). Also looked into Magic Johnson fundraiser on Trolls. Looking for a date for December. Reached out to Riverbank about ice skating night.
 - b. Remind class parents about ongoing fundraisers (amazon, lands end etc.)
 - c. TC townhall: Nancy Streim will give us update hopefully by mid December.

VI. School Leadership Team Report: Dep Chancellor Rose. Looking at private space for permanent location. Looking at temporary space until then. Michelle Kelly: Space in D3 available by bus. SLT asked if any other space in D5. Wouldn't offer us bus for D3. Requested that they look in D5 again with open mind. They said it wouldn't be a problem if we were open to PS 129. DC receptive and open minded to discussions. SLT never told PS 129 was off table. DC said that there would have been enough time if PS 129 was acceptable. DC looked shocked that SLT never told it was off the table. Same with Mott Hall that DC presented it positively, although they new that some families at Mott Hall did not want to move. School construction auth did assessment of private space (Mink Bldg). Developer building up. Would not be ready by Sept. Ideally would like one building prek-8. DC will give us solution to temporary space. D3 school has middle school science lab. Look at temporary space with open mind either upper grade or possibly lower grade moves. Could write into PEP the number of temporary years, so we don't end up with temporary space as permanent space like Columbia Secondary. Letters from families have been impactful. Issue at hand is that D5 has continued to be underserved and moving to D3 would continue that trend. Keep bombarding officials with letters. Get kids to write persuasive letters. Doesn't matter the age, have K & 1st and upper grades write letters.

VII. Committee Updates

- a. Giving Social Tues 11/22 8-8:30am. Working on class artwork what kids are thankful for. Need volunteers to clean up.
- b. Art & Music
 - i. Music: 1st concert 11/30. Woodwind quartet from MSM will perform. MSM provides musicians for free.
 - ii. Arts: reaching out to organizations. Met with principal 3-5 will give 1 hour/week. Each class 25 kids and will have visual art/drawing and alternate. Need to find artist. Also, artist needs to be certified. If class teacher there, then maybe artist does not need to be certified. Parents trying to create art without TC. For lower grade, committee will create art project for teachers to bring to class. Teachers like the idea. Spring is when the curriculum will come together. Org in Queens that provide free art supplies.
- c. Lights camera action: after school option, fill out survey to see which day is best. Also need volunteers. Parent running this program, free, will provide equipment, have space, Verdiner agreed, just need parent volunteers.
- d. Winterfest: in Jan this year. Allow music program more time to prepare. Looking at 1/21, but difficult to find space for our entire school. Looking at Dempsey Center. Will start earlier in day, prek-2 perform first and then those families go and enjoy food and intermission and then 3-5 grade perform and then they eat. Music teachers want to have it more focused on music. Thiking about getting music from teachers and have students do something about musicians.

- e. Auction: Look into Hebrew Tabernacle as space.
- f. Picture Day: Dec 2nd retake, need to return photos that you are unhappy with
- g. Merchandise: aiming for after Thanksgiving to have online site up and running.
- h. 501 ©(3) Coni seeking funding from K. Wright
- i. Square 1 Art: self portraits
- j. Community Service: last hour on Friday. Kids signed up and harvested and walked over to St. Josephs and Father Nolan spoke to kids about pantry. Now, our food drive will be donated directly to St. Josephs. Boxes on each floor and MPR and main entry. Kids selected will walk food over to pantry and will go thru Dec. Nicola will run coat drive for NY Cares.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Vote on Bylaw Amendments
Vote taken: majority unanimous vote.

IX. New Business

- a. Call to Action: see above

X. Adjournment