



PS 11 PTA General Meeting Minutes November 26, 2013

Call to Order 9:03 a.m. 51 Members in Attendance

Approval of October Minutes

President's Report Thank you principal, teachers and parents. The school year is off to a great start.

Principal's Report

- The student council members have been selected: Liam and Audrey.
- 3rd grade is performing for the Hudson Guild Senior Citizen Center today.
- The Science Fair will be held Jan. 29th, 2014 for 3rd – 5th grade and so far everything is going really well. The groups have been meeting according to their set schedule.
- Kindergarten through 2nd grade has been participating in the Science Discovery Center.
- The cast of the 5th grade play, Annie, will be announced tomorrow.
- The 4th graders will be going to see The Nutcracker soon and one of our students is performing in the show.
- 3rd grade is participating in Chess instruction
- 2nd grade is participating in Circle in the Square.
- The CEP has been approved by the superintendent and will be on the DOE website.
- We will be having two or three performance assessments on non-fiction. This type of work is included in the state test.
- We are focusing on 'writing on reading' for 3rd, 4th and 5th grades.
- Math fluency is also another focal point, memorizing is important but we also have the kids learning how to understand math.

Announcement by council members: December 20th is compliment day; everyone will wear a white T shirt to have their classmates write compliments on. Please donate white t-shirts to ensure that every student is able to participate.

Parent Coordinator's Report

- Lost and found: please label your clothes, if the item is labeled its brought to me and I call the student to the office to retrieve it.
- Picture re-take day is December 3rd; return your package today except for the class picture.
- The kindergarten application process starts January 13th. Everything is online: Office of Student enrollment.

SLT Report we will soon have multi-language announcements. There will be instructions on how to get translations for eight languages on the notices that go home in the home folder.

Treasurer's Report

- For the period ending October 31st the PTA raise \$89,000 and incurred \$99,000 of program expenditures. The PTA ended the month with approximately 216k thousand cash on hand.
- The annual fund drive is gaining momentum with to date donations totaling \$70,000 from 97 families. This amount excludes: \$14,000 online donations from 33 families made between October 19th and 31st, as these online transactions were not deposited into the bank account until November.
- The Fall Festival grossed approximately \$4,000 from the Etsy craft fair, \$3,100 from bake sale, \$4,200 from Raffles, \$4,600 from admissions/lunch and \$2,300 from Halla's clothing sale. After deducting expenses net proceeds are \$12,000. Art and craft supplies and game prizes were donated by parents. Thank you Dara and volunteers.
- Other funds raised during October include Parent Night out at the Living Room which raised \$2,300 and the Amazon school rewards program which brought in \$600.
- On the expense side school is in full swing. We wrote \$72,800 of checks in October. Major expenses include \$4,200 literacy and math development, \$1,800 for parental involvement programs, \$40,000 for school support (recess, cook shop, Farm Market, home folders, lice check, and staff welcome breakfast) & \$26,800 for enrichment (camping, chess, science, Book of the Month, pottery program, Pascal dance and Nutcracker trip)

Fundraising Report

***Annual fund** thank you for everyone who donated to the annual fund.

- Annual Fund Grade Challenge: Kindergarten has won the grade challenge and will get an ice cream party held by 16 Handles. First grade was not far behind; the next challenge day is 1/15/14. The grade to reach 80% by that date will get a pizza party.
- AF to date: \$158,628.81. We have another \$10,000 in credit card commitments. Our goal is \$300,000. Please check with your company to see if they do matching. Any amount counts, what we really need is high participation.

***Comedy for a Cause**

- Comedy for cause is our next big fundraising event. Discounted tickets will go on sale 12/9 for PS11 families. The ticket sales go live on 12/11.
- Please let us know if you are interested or know someone who would be interested in sponsorship tables, forms are available now. \$1,500 seats 4 people, \$2,500 seats 6 people and \$5,000 seats 8 people. These tables include open bar, food, show tickets, etc. a lot of offices and families buy these tables.
- Charity Buzz items needed. Website where people can go and bid on items. If you have connections or ideas, please let someone on the PTA know, please take a form and get back to us.

*** Fall Student fundraiser** The Magic bean: 445 plants were sold = \$3,000 dollars raised.

The "I love you" plant was very popular! Volunteers are needed for distribution of the plants. They will be delivered between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

***Amazon.com.** We have raised \$4,465.25. So far, please do your holiday shopping on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and support PS11. Go to the PS11 website, click the tab for fundraising, and download the fundraising link for your browser. (Safari, Firefox and Google Chrome)

Volunteers Report thank you to all the morning volunteers.

* **Book Fair Kathryn & France:**

- volunteers needed Dec 17-20
- The book fair runs for 4 days, 12 cases of books transform the auditorium lobby into the bookfair. Volunteers help the children choose books and ring them up.
- Every child gets a book. Any child who does not have money at the book fair receives an \$8 voucher from the PTA.
- There are opportunities for parents to shop at the PTA meeting and also on Family Friday.
- The online book fair runs for 3 weeks from December 17th thru January 6th. These orders are shipped directly to the school; there will be no shipping and handling charge to you. Also please visit the PS11 website to view your teacher's classroom wish list.
- The printed PTA financial budget will be revised for the next PTA meeting to reflect exactly how the book fair raises money. \$9,000-10,000 is raised in credit for the school; it makes the process easier this way.

* **Garden** volunteers are needed to give tours of the garden to the classes. Please email Lauren ps11garden@gmail.com

Old Business

* **Box Tops**

- Please collect BoxTops, you can find them on cereal boxes, Avery labels, Ziploc items and much more. Ask your friends and family to help collect also.
- Another way to earn BoxTops for PS11 is through the marketplace Box Tops for Education
- Last year we collected 1,700 BoxTops the goal this year is 2,000 = \$2,000
- Flyers are going out today in the home folder. For questions email: Jodyk@usa.net

* **Young Artists Nancy & Halla**

- We are still accepting teachers and assistant teachers, you do not have to have experience you just have to have a love for art. If interested email: ps11youngartists@gmail.com.
- The schedules are almost ready they will be 19 classes. There will be jewelry making, cartooning, print and much more. At the end, the children will have a gallery reception.
- This is a lottery program and the children who were not accepted last year will get first priority this year.
- Mid-January we will have a kickoff meeting. On January 13th, a sign up sheet will be sent home.

* **Auction/Gala Team: Larry, Scott, Misha, Alex.** Contact: scottcoscia@aol.com or larryfmills@gmail.com

- The venue is Chelsea Piers. We just had a walk through and we have some nice ideas.
- The Gala will be held May 5th and there will be a Cinco de Mayo theme.
- There will be a guacamole making contest with professional chefs and celebrity judges
- If you have any connections to restaurant or PR people please let us know, the soliciting letters will be done by our next meeting.
- Donations needed for the live auction, the online auction and Bidding for Good.

New Business

* **Coat Drive** The coat drive is running now. There are boxes outside the main entrance. Please donate.

*** Lost and found**

- We had 7 volunteers for 4 hours to organize the lost and found. We had 2 outdoor events to give everyone a chance to pick up their lost items. The unclaimed items were donated to Homes for the Homeless.
- The Lost and Found will be labeled this week and last week, you will have one week to pick up your lost items. After 1 week the items will be donated. Please label your child's items; the labeled items will go to the Parent Coordinator, Mr. McGill.
- If you would like to come and check the Lost and Found yourself, 9 a.m. is the best time. Please have your PS11 parent ID.
- Please spread the word about the Lost and Found process.

Adjournment 9:59am

Minutes taken and transcribed by S.Viola Varner



**HIGHLIGHTS: PS 11 PTA General Meeting Minutes
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Parent Coordinator: Picture re-take day is December 3rd; return your package today except for the class picture. The kindergarten application process starts January 13th everything is online: Office of Student enrollment.

Financials: \$216k thousand cash on hand. ***Annual fund** AF to date: \$158,628.81.

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Volunteer: Book Fair volunteers needed Dec 17-20 **Garden** tour volunteers are needed.

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