

PS 163 General PTA Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 17, 2021

Time: 6:00 pm – 7:13 pm

Location: Zoom

Prepared By: Alissa Schaible, Recording Secretary, PS 163 PTA

- 6:05 pm — Call to order and agenda
- 6:07 pm — Co-president report
 - Wrap up of year - overall very successful with move to virtual events
 - More than 1 event held per month
 - Game Night and Evening with the Stars particularly noted
 - Thank you to volunteers - teacher appreciation week, school pictures, toy drive, etc.
 - AAPI and BLM forums - very successful
 - Readathon - month-long event, was very successful and engaging
 - Upcoming events
 - Town hall tomorrow 6/18
 - Graduation 6/22 and 6/23
 - Next year
 - PTA/SLT elections to be held in the fall
 - LGBTQ and Latinx forums
 - Tippy Latnhotha announced as new Family Healing Ambassador
 - Special thanks to Nicki Reidy as she leaves the PTA Exec board after 8 years - more to come at end of meeting
- 6:17 pm — Treasurer report
 - Showing PNL for 6/9 - will run final numbers for year end 6/30, but doesn't expect many changes
 - Did much better than the conservative budget set for the year
 - Fundraising went well - \$56.8k
 - Expenses were down (no chess, dance, etc.) - \$14.5k
 - Net positive \$42.2k for the year

- Readathon brought in just under \$10k
 - Expenses mainly consisted of classroom supplements (software/subscriptions) and teacher grants
 - Bank balance of \$124.3k unrestricted / \$22.6k restricted
- Will start planning budget for next year over the summer - more “normal”
 - Bringing back chess, dance, etc
- Also still waiting for money from spring school pictures
- Question regarding \$10k in restricted DL funds
 - Leftover from an old grant (funds were also granted to GE, etc)
 - Requires sign off from grantor to spend/move the funds
 - Has been used for training curriculum, etc
- 6:27 pm — Christine Loughlin - thanks to Nicki
 - Also thanks to Nicki from Tracy McClaire
- 6:28 pm — Principal report
 - Thanks to Nicki
 - Thanks to PTA - especially for the recent forums and also Family Feud event
 - Reminder of Town Hall tomorrow morning - will discuss plan for full time school in the fall
 - There will Open House events on July 7-8 from 9-11am to come in the building to see safety setups, etc
 - For the fall - programs back in place for DL and GT (GT 1-5)
 - Teachers already have their class assignments
 - Submitted questions:
 - Will GT cohorts be combined with other groups at all (middle school model) - No
 - Will space/capacity be used as a reason to split/not reinstate GT? What is the cap? - More space will be found if needed. Classroom cap is 24 or 26 depending on the room
 - Will lack of staff be used as a reason to not reinstate GT / what happens if a teacher leaves? - Will have the staff, GT teacher will be found if needed
 - Any plans for the middle school model? No
 - Will GT classes/teachers be fully supported? All programs will be fully supported

- Summer Rising - participants will go to PS 75 site
- School Construction Authority - currently starting 8-12 month planning phase
 - Looking at roof repairs and also exterior - planning to start fall 2022, take roughly 2 years to complete
 - Will keep everyone updated with procedures and timing as it develops
- Ongoing communication - will hold a Town Hall in August with more details about the fall
- Questions from chat:
 - School hours for the fall? 8:30 am - 2:50 pm
 - Could construction take place full time in the summer? Still in preliminary planning phase
 - Currently no plans for early drop off in the fall
- Christine Loughlin on construction - she meets with SCA multiple times throughout the year
 - Work is accelerated during summer months
 - Will work with Mr. Lopez
- Wild Arts will be back in the fall (Therese is on the board)
 - Email to come with updated information and fees
 - There was a concern about permit fees
 - This past year various fees went up related to cleaning and overtime - expected to go down next school year, in part due to stimulus money
- 6:43 pm — SLT report
 - Report cards to come next week - will be online after the last day of school
 - Can contact teachers before last day if you need to discuss anything
 - Attendance can be checked online and is updated
 - Funds - trying to spend some money before year end or would revert back to DOE
 - Had to be used this year within specific parameters, about \$40k will go back
- 6:47 pm — CEC report
 - Presentation from Model CEC (made of students, teachers, etc)
 - Discussed 3 issues - remote learning, bullying civics curriculum

- Proposed started civics in early grades
 - Thanks to principals for their humanity during the pandemic
 - There is a video posted on the CEC website
 - A GT parent spoke about the GT program at 163
 - Resolution about the Family Welcome Center
 - New CEC starts in July - including 163 parent Jeanie Ahn
- 6:52 pm — Cocktail hour with Seth Little - making celebratory French 75s!
- 6:57 pm — Video for Nicki was shown
 - Various toasts as well
- 7:13 pm — Meeting adjourned