



PS 163 PTA
163 West 97th Street
New York, NY 10025

Nominee Bios for 2024-2025 PTA Executive Board

Running for President/Co-President (up to 3 people can share position)

Agnes Zakrzewska, child in Dual Language, 1st grade: "I'm happy to run for co-president again and work with the PS163 families to build a happy and welcoming community. Mom of future second grader named Leon.

Sarah Horne, child in General Education & Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT), 1st grade: "My daughter has been at PS 163 for 2 years. Her first year, I volunteered in the library, was her class parent, and planned the first spring fair back following Covid. This year, I've been a member of the executive committee for the PTA, volunteered at events, and once again planned the spring fair."

Tabina Williams, child in General Education, 3rd grade: "I feel like my kid has teachers take time out for him."

Running for Corresponding Secretary (up to 2 people can share this position)

Andrena Andrews, child in Gifted & Talented, 4th grade: "I am the parent of a current 4th grader and have been on the PTA for 3 years now. As we enter 5th grade, I would like to be a Liason as well as continue to be parent coordinator."

Running for Recording Secretary (up to 2 people can share this position)

Ashley Moore, child in Gifted & Talented, 3rd grade: "I'm a NYC native with a professional background in healthcare and business management. I'm also the proud mom of a PS 163 3rd grader, and we've been with PS 163 since Pre-k. Serving with the PTA as co-recording secretary this year has been a wonderful experience, and I would love the opportunity to continue to support the children and families of our school."



Running for Treasurer (1 person)

Alissa Schaible, children in Dual Language & Gifted & Talented, 2nd grade & 5th grade: "I've been on the PTA Exec board for four years, serving for the last two as Treasurer. I've been a member of the school community since fall 2016, and want to continue helping on the PTA board."

Running for VP of Communications (up to 2 people can share this position)

Melody Quintana, children in Dual Language, PK & 1st grade: ""Hello! I'm a bilingual PS 163 mom, volunteer librarian, and professional writer and designer. I've crafted communications and experiences at tech companies like Facebook, Google, and Dropbox. Now, I have my own consulting business to do the same work on a more flexible schedule. With the extra time this gives me, I enjoy being more involved with the school. I can help plan, write, and design communications for our multicultural community. Communicating in both English and Spanish is important to me.

¡Hola! Soy una madre bilingüe, bibliotecaria voluntaria, y escritora y diseñadora profesional. He creado comunicaciones y experiencias en empresas de tecnología como Facebook, Google y Dropbox. Ahora tengo mi propio negocio de consultoría para hacer el mismo trabajo en un horario más flexible. Con el tiempo extra que esto me da, disfruto dedicar más tiempo con la escuela. Puedo ayudar a planificar, escribir, y diseñar comunicaciones para nuestra comunidad multicultural. Comunicar tanto en inglés como en español es importante para mí."

Richard Geohaghan, child in Dual Language, PK: "A tactical Sales, Project Management, and Market Research leader offering 20 years of individual contributor and management level experience leveraging analytical insights to lead teams of high-performing personnel in fast-paced environments. Proven ability to create a go-to-market strategy to drive company positioning, elevate branding, and exceed corporate sales goals. Adept at leading teams to sell products which deliver unique value and enhanced customer ROI. An expert relationship builder known for forging partnerships with cross-functional collaboration and thought leadership."

Running for VP of Facilities & Equipment (up to 2 people can share this position)

Erin Herzog, child in Dual Language, 1st grade: "I have been active in the PTA community for 2 years now since my daughter started PS 163. During the 23-24 school year, I attended every SLT meeting, assisted with both the Auction and the Spring Fair and submitted all necessary permits for PTA events. It would be my pleasure to remain in my current roles on the PTA exec board and on the SLT committee to help make the PS 163 community a successful one!"



Running for VP of Family Engagement (up to 2 people can share this position)

Aviva Grasso, children in General Education & Gifted & Talented, 1st grade & 5th grade: "I've been at this for years and enjoy being in the room when decisions are made. I am running for a different role this year because I really want to figure out better ways to get more parents involved in supporting the school community."

Elba Leo, child in Dual Language, K: "My name is Elba Leo and I am a passionate advocate for children's education and parental involvement in school communities. As a mother of two (soon to be three!), I am thrilled for my children to attend PS163—my oldest will be starting Kindergarten Dual Language in the fall.

Before having kids of my own, I cared for two children for over five years as a dedicated nanny, one of them with special needs. As a result of that experience, I understand the importance of nurturing and supporting children for their growth and development.

I am originally from Brazil and fluent in English, Portuguese and Spanish. Having immigrated to the United States as a teenager, I experienced firsthand the challenges that come with adapting to a new educational environment and system especially for those who speak a different native language. For this reason, I feel I can personally relate to the needs of parents and children who come from different cultures.

As VP of Family Engagement and a PTA member, I hope to:

1. Help parents navigate the school system and processes so they feel empowered to become more invested and involved in their children's educational experience.
2. Foster a welcoming school environment where all children, regardless of background, feel valued and supported in their educational journey.
3. Work together with parents, educators, administrators, volunteers and PTA members to create a supportive and enriching environment where every child can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

I look forward to working with you and applying my experiences to help make the PS163 community an even more collaborative place for the benefit of our children and families,

+++

Mi nombre es Elba Leo y soy una apasionada defensora de la educación infantil y la participación de los padres en las comunidades escolares. Como madre de dos hijos (¡pronto serán tres!), estoy emocionada de que mis hijos asistan a PS163—mi hijo mayor comenzará el Kindergarten Dual Language en otoño.

Antes de tener hijos propios, cuidé de dos niños durante más de cinco años como niñera dedicada, uno de ellos con necesidades especiales. Esa experiencia me enseñó la importancia de cuidar y apoyar a los niños para su crecimiento y desarrollo.

Soy originaria de Brasil y hablo con fluidez inglés, portugués y español. Al emigrar a los Estados Unidos como adolescente, experimenté los desafíos que conlleva adaptarse a un nuevo entorno educativo y sistema, especialmente para aquellos que hablan un idioma nativo diferente. Por esta razón, siento que puedo relacionarme personalmente con las necesidades de los padres y niños que provienen de diferentes culturas.

Como vicepresidente de Compromiso Familiar y miembro de la PTA, espero:

1. Ayudar a los padres a navegar por el sistema escolar y los procesos para que se sientan empoderados para involucrarse más en la experiencia educativa de sus hijos.



2. Fomentar un ambiente escolar acogedor donde todos los niños, independientemente de su origen, se sientan valorados y apoyados en su camino educativo.
3. Trabajar junto con padres, educadores, administradores, voluntarios y miembros de la PTA para crear un ambiente de apoyo y enriquecimiento donde cada niño pueda prosperar académica, social y emocionalmente.

Espero con interés trabajar con ustedes y aplicar mis experiencias para ayudar a hacer de la comunidad de PS163 un lugar aún más colaborativo en beneficio de nuestros niños y nuestras familias.”

Running for VP of Fundraising (up to 2 people can share this position)

Roxanne Mootreddy, children in Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) & Dual Language, 4th grade & 5th grade: “The rummage sale seems to take up most of my time but, I have volunteered as chaperones for my children’s classes, when the spring fair was moved inside we coordinated and made it happen inside with other volunteers. This year the fair was outside and we coordinated with other PTA members to make things happen. I’m very active in my children’s early/ elementary school years, so wherever or whenever I can help I will, with the teachers, school staff, PTA members or other parents.”

Running for SLT Parent Representative (3 positions available)

Erin Herzog, child in Dual Language, 1st grade: “I have been active in the PTA community for 2 years now since my daughter started PS 163. During the 23-24 school year, I attended every SLT meeting, assisted with both the Auction and the Spring Fair and submitted all necessary permits for PTA events. It would be my pleasure to remain in my current roles on the PTA exec board and on the SLT committee to help make the PS 163 community a successful one!”

Erika Cagney, children in General Education & Gifted & Talented, 1st grade & 4th grade: “We have been part of the 163 community for many years. Our oldest daughter started in pre-K and graduated last year. Our middle daughter is in 4th grade and our youngest is in 1st. I have been on SLT for three years, have volunteered as class parent for various teachers, and have tried to be involved in as many 163 events as possible. Our girls have also participated in Wild Arts and other after school activities like running club and chorus. I enjoy working collaboratively with other parents, teachers, and administrators to help support the school and hope to continue to serve on SLT!”

Flavio Aguilar Jr.