



PTA General Meeting Minutes – Monday, March 26th, 2018

Attendees: Jasmine Galia, Grace LiMandri, Patricia Salamone, Carol Leone, Erica D'Urso, Erin Burmester, Susan Weir, Jovan Rashford, Chrissy Tzorbatzoglou, Anna Dimilta

Speaker: Jasmine Galia, President:

Mrs. Galia started the meeting at 7:15 pm, we did hit quorum for the meeting and we are recording the meeting since Christianne Tomao, our recording secretary is not here today. We will now take a vote to waive the reading of the minutes from the last meeting – All in favor YES 21/21. 21 people in attendance as of 7:15 pm. There will be no pledge of allegiance since the flags are not visible.

Speaker: Anna Dimilta, Principal:

- Test sophistication
- Field day
- Enrichment clusters
- Music residency
- Just say Hi
- Math instruction
- Safety
- Meg Baker

Mrs. Dimilta thanked everyone for attending

Test Sophistication

Test sophistication packets were sent home as the state tests are coming up April 10th and 11th and May 1st and 2nd. We encourage authentic learning and tests are a part of life while we do understand your concerns about taking these tests. The sooner children experience this environment of testing, the better it is for them to adjust. She also mentioned to please reach out to her for specific concerns.

Field day

Lower grade and upper grade field days are coming up in May, lower grade on May 9th, will take place in the school yard and upper grade will be off site on May 18th. We also have a pre-k field day date TBD.

Enrichment clusters begin May 8th – June 14th for 4th and 5th graders. Such topics can be coding and gardening among other things. It is an excellent way to prepare for middle school.

Music residency

Music program is going very well and many of the children like it very much.

Just Say Hi

Just say Hi initiative is about how to work with all students, regardless of disabilities or cultures. It has been going very well and the second grade will have a play in April.

Math instruction

As a staff we are working collectively on different aspects of the lesson and how we can help the students in a more effective manner. The goal of this district is to give the students enough support in grades 5-8 to pass the 9th grade Regents. Next year we will have math instruction for 5th grade families as things will change regarding instruction. We spend a lot of time on math at this school, so we hope to improve. An additional letter will be sent out to families who wish to purchase the GO math application.

Safety

Update in what is happening with safety: there is no money allotted for schools that do not have cameras, schools that have them have received capital funding and that is how they were able to get them. Mrs. Dimilta asked if she could move the \$350,000 from the playground and \$50,000 from an AC Grant into a camera fund, which we are able to do. We are working on everything and slowly we hope that changes can be made. We are hoping they will come up with some sort of Chancellor's regulation about locking the doors. The NYPD is still monitoring the situation and they have supported us immensely; hopefully the DOE will review their old policies. Mrs. Galia stated the superintendent addressed the safety concerns at the President's council meeting. The doors only get locked during a shelter in. The fire department can get into any door or window, but the police cannot. There is also no written waiver from Mr. Vallone for Mrs. Dimilta to lock the doors, it must be during a shelter in. We are also awaiting a reply for the \$39,000 for walkie talkies from Mr. Vallone. Mrs. Galia mentioned a letter for donation will go out after the break. The 109 will be coming in to talk about cyber safety. The school is taking measures slowly to change safety. Drills will continue as per the guidelines.

Speaker: Meg Baker, Parent Coordinator

Please continue to send in surveys we are almost at our goal.

May 30th there's a Hall of science district event.

Bottle Contest was won by Ms. Dixon's class, Mrs. Dahan came in second.

Mrs. Baker also reached out about the SASF summer camp, she is waiting to hear back.

Speaker: Grace LiMandri, Treasurer

Current Balance: \$24,991.37

March Pizza Day Profit: \$956.71

Speaker: Jasmine Galia, President

- **Nominations committee**
- **School choices**
- **Spring pictures**
- **Fundraisers**
- **Votes**
- **Questions/comments**

Nominations Committee:

Cathy Zerillo, Maria Loccisano, Annie Romano, Diana Chi

Mrs. Galia mentioned each position has a different responsibility, besides attending the 2 required meetings a month. Nominations for Co-Presidents and Co-Vice Presidents, 2 candidates go on the ballot together if they are running as a team. Otherwise the position can be filled by one person who chooses to run alone and wins the vote. As of the new Chancellor Regs, no one can be forced into serving a “co” position with someone they do not wish to serve it with.

Per Nomination Committee Chairperson Annie Romano, Volunteer coordinator, treasurer, and president all have nominations in so far.

If election is uncontested as of the May General PTA meeting, then there's no election in June. Notices for open PTA positions have gone out. If we have no President, Treasurer and Recording Secretary, we cannot have a PTA as these are the core positions that must be filled to have a functioning PTA.

School choices

April - middle school choices will go out and in May pre-k choices will go out.

Spring Pictures

If you don't like the pictures, please return them by Thursday March 29th at 2pm for the no homework pass incentive. Otherwise the deadline to return pictures and or payment is Friday, April 13th

Fundraisers:

Miss chocolate delivered by April 12th (after the meeting adjourned the delivery date was moved to April 16th to not disrupt during state testing)

April 20th last pizza day for the year.

Votes:

Vote \$1,000 for Volunteer breakfast at Allora June 12th 11:30, all in favor: YES 30/30

Vote \$600 to spend Mother's Day flowers, all in favor: YES 30/30

Vote \$600 on Staff Appreciation breakfast, all in favor: YES 30/30

Questions/Comments: NONE

Next PTA meeting will be Monday, April 23rd, 2018

Meeting adjourned 8:43pm.

Prepared by Christianne Tomao, Recording Secretary