



PTA Meeting November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Attendees: Jasmine Galia, Grace LiMandri, Christianne Tomao, Jovan Rashford, Carol Leone, Erica D'Urso, Christina Tzorbatozoglou, Erin Burmester

**Speaker: Jasmine Galia, President**

Mrs. Galia called the meeting to order at 7:15pm.

VOTE: to waive the reading of last month's PTA meeting minutes YES 20/20

Mrs. Galia turned the meeting over to Mrs. Dimilta.

**Speaker: Anna Dimilta, Principal**

- Open school week
- Instructional Focus
- Mrs. Acquista – presentation
- Questions

Mrs. Dimilta began by mentioning that the school has lost money because we have lower enrollment this year than previous years. We have also lost zoned students to neighboring schools that have gifted programs. In total, the school lost about a whole class size of students.

Open School Week

The week of November 27<sup>th</sup> is open school week. We are also thinking about adding additional time to visit clusters. The schedule so far is as follows:

Monday – 8:30-9:30, kindergarten

Tuesday – 8:30-9:30, grades 1 and 4

Wednesday – 8:30 – 9:30, grades 2,3 and 5

Thursday – 9:15-10:00, Pre-K

Instructional Focus

Mrs. Dimilta mentioned that is year the focus will be on literacy as we have been using balanced literacy at PS 184 for quite some time. The goal for every teacher is to work on reading. As always, we will continue working on math, but reading is where we need improvement.

Mrs. Dimilta introduced the guidance counselor, Mrs. Acquista for her presentation on child abuse.

**Speaker: Maria Acquista, Guidance Counselor**

Mrs. Acquista thanked the room for having her. She mentioned this presentation is mandated by the DOE. She spoke about positive discipline, which is used in schools and focuses on positive behavior. It is based on an idea that there are no bad children but there are bad choices. Children learn from us first so it is our job to lead by example. We should speak to children at their eye level and be consistent and follow through with logical consequences and they should have the same expectations at home that they have in school. One idea to promote positive behavior is posting rules at home. We can also give children choices, as they tend to love to make a choice for themselves. Timers is another good thing to use in order for a child to complete a task. Behavior charts also work well.

Regarding child abuse, anyone in the school is mandated and able to report child abuse as per the Chancellor's regulation A750. The school will report any cause where they feel the child will be unsafe.

Questions/Comments

**Speaker: Meg Baker, Parent Coordinator**

There will be a Five Guys fundraiser on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 from 4-8 pm for the school Arts program. The flyer for this will go out tomorrow.

Canned foods and pennies for patients fundraisers are due at the end of this month.

Middle school applications are due December 1<sup>st</sup>.

We will have toys for tots on December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Winter Fair, each family who donates a toy will be entered in a raffle.

**Speaker, Grace LiMandri, Treasurer**

Balance - \$24,560.31

Pizza day – \$1,021.60

Paint Night - \$963.00

The 5<sup>th</sup> grade fundraiser is included in the balance.

**Speaker: Jasmine Galia, President**

- Membership update
- CEC meeting – Jovan Rashford
- Upcoming fundraisers
- Questions

**To date our membership drive collection is \$9,487.00**, and we have enough money to pay for the Arts program! We will have another pizza day in December.

**Speaker: Jovan Rashford, Vice President**

Mrs. Rashford attended this month's CEC meeting where the topics included:

Flushing high school reconstruction

Capital improvement coming in January where you're principal should focus on needs, not wants for our school.

Contracts for excellence- receiving funding from the state.

**Speaker: Jasmine Galia, President**

Mrs. Galia mentioned that she was unable to attend the presidents council meeting because it fell on the same night as tonight's meeting.

Upcoming fundraisers:

Winter fair – Friday December 8<sup>th</sup>, all day in the gym, this year we will be open to the public at night for 6-9pm. Raffle tickets were sent home at parent teacher conferences. Anyone who purchases raffles will get a homework pass. The winter fair bake sale letter will go out 11/21.

Miss Chocolate bake sale orders to be delivered 12/19.

Grad and picture retake day is 1/10/18.

School is closed 11/23 and 11/24 for Thanksgiving holiday. Winter break is December 23<sup>rd</sup> thru January 1<sup>st</sup> and school reopens January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018.

Mrs. Dimilta mentioned the school was chosen to participate in a program called "Just Say Hi" which is against bullying and is about inclusion. This program will kickoff December 7<sup>th</sup> and student ambassadors will be chosen.

Questions/Comments

The next meeting will be Monday 1/29/2018

Meeting adjourned 8:08 pm.

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Prepared by Christianne Tomao, Recording Secretary