

PS 452 General PTA Meeting Minutes

April 19th, 2016

Meeting commences at 6:35pm

I. Welcome & Announcements (Elizabeth Campbell)

- A. We are going to take nominations for the Exec Team for next year. Everything is up and Liz will pass out descriptions of the positions.

II. Approval of minutes (Robin Krugman)

- A. Liz Campbell moves to approve minutes. Robin Krugman Seconds. All approved, motion passes.

III. Principal's Report (Scott Parker)

- A. Scott introduced Katie Wears, our evening speaker to learn about the supports that we have for teachers She works with PD for K-2 team. Katie Clements works with 3-5th.

Katie- about herself. Took show of hands what grades we represent. Katie's company and how it works. Organization based at Columbia University and provide literature for K-8 and some high school. She works Bronx, NJ, Manhattan, CA, Rural parts of NY. When they are in schools they work with teachers in meeting times and in lab sites. The organizations provide other types of instructions...when in schools (here) Scott gets 10 days with K-2 and another 10 with upper grades. Also specialized support with another, Carl Anderson with teachers for writing instruction and feedback. Emily Butler Smith was also here who comes with support for content and study. Weaving more reading and writing into the works. Spring/and Fall they think about the best ways to support the teachers with their learning and the kids and things they see and make a plan. What are the best days for her to be here are determined and she comes in groups of days and builds on the work she is doing. She works with small groups and some cross grade groups. They are like a think tank or problem solving. What works/what doesn't and what do they want to try to increase student engagement and make life long readers out of the kids. Time to collaborate together in a safe environment and use the instructors to bounce things off of. She is doing work around non-fiction and what are good skills to have in those grades. How to select some books to use in instruction so they are engaged. How do we help all the kids? Analyze student writing and study it how to make the next step and they can move forward. That's the entire year. Elissa asks where do you learn? Lucy cawkins (sp ?) founded org 30/ yrs ago..has grown exponentially. Consider themselves to be a think tank. Every Thursday the entire org meets on campus...high priority days. Work similar to when in school...They sign up for different study groups. Example...2nd graders below grade level. What can we do to have

more positive energy around that? Sometimes outside educators ie. Toni Wagner (Harvard) come to support the study groups.

Scott: Some staff developers are working on phd as well. Lucy is also a literacy instructor, on the faculty at TC. Kindergarten...she co authored a K book and our teachers piloted it. Questions.... Cybele asked for her to give an example of what she might give the teachers. Buzz stuff around non-fiction, write non-fiction....How do we get their talk stronger...how do we get them to react and respond a bit more. They thought about the different types of non fiction material in the world...navigating photographs, navigating videos. How do you use analogue books next to a real book and get cross texts. Now you have more information and use some of the words from the book and talk about the picture you saw. What new info did you get from video and not from book? On May 10th when she comes back they will discuss how to write more about it and try a few things and enforce the practice in the classrooms. Scott does a lot to build capacity so he uses the PD time when she may not be there to have teachers share and those that weren't included can have the same info too.

IV. Back to Scott...thank you for the auction it was a great time. Thanks to all.

Thanks for inviting teachers it was nice to hang as a large group. Other news...State Testing and make up sessions. 4th grade has one more state testing in science which will be two parts. One written with multiple choice and a performance day. Year is winding down and some of the PD days that are left they will be here working with teachers. Scott is halfway through spring coffee cycle. 2nd grade on Thursday am. After break 1st and K. Check performance schedules for art and music etc. Two pieces of good news....we have (1) teacher is a finalist for our Big Apple Teacher Awards...Ms. Kessler. She had an interview and Ms. Wu gave birth to a baby boy named Franklin on April 5th at 7pm. Mother and child doing well. Next year is coming up...getting ready for next year. Teachers all want to return. May need to hire 1 teacher (for Ms Wu) and hire a secretary. Parents will be sent home forms to let school know if we will be returning. We will need to begin having discussions for additional space in building...(2 or so rooms upstairs) 60 incoming Kindergartners have applied and DOE has allowed 452 to extend to out of zone for a total of 75 incoming.

V. Letters arrived for 5th grade placements. 80 percent got 1st or 2nd choice (20% West 10% computer school took 8% 54 students took 18% a little less than 50 % for Wes and the rest took 3%....52 kids in 5th grade. 83rd percent got 1st or 2nd choice. You should only put on applications the schools you want. Mott Hall and Computer won't look at students that don't pick them as first choice. Put ONLY the schools you want your child to go to. We had over 75% of the kids get their first choice. Some don't live in our district and got schools in their district.

VI. Treasurer's Report (Jill Gabin & Cybele Weisser)

A. Jill- projected year end column 503K vs 384K expenses are 10K under at 479K. Big changes but huge congrats \$246K the pledge drive at \$150K and we are projecting \$155K which may be light. Rad a thon 11K more on

amazon and fairway and spirit wear. Expenses- Cybele....PE equipment and teachers college....\$38K and math consultant and year end at 100K. Curriculum study...for K...pet study. Fundraising expenses not to the auction. 8200 for processing fees for auction. Increase that for next year. Auction expenses around 17K....District 3 dues that they asked for \$150. Highlighted is 16K raised for auction for air conditioners. Hopefully by end of this year. Budget was 6K but will spend all of it on new units...set as up well for next year. Budget meeting after this meeting please join us.

VII. Fundraising Report (Lynn Martin)

- A. Date for book fair...June 21st place TBD and a sign up will go out for set up and break down. Heather Tait will be chairing it and you can shop before and after the meeting. Basketball program info to come.
- B. Fall fair date October 1st...rain date 15th -

VIII. New business (Liz Campbell)

- A. Jenny and Gretchen Flier for Spring Fundraiser over the course of an entire weekend. Post PTA meeting on May 24th as well. Take out delivery and dine out.
 - B. Laura...39% participation for Pledge Drive....still 2 months to give. Try to get the number up to at least last years 60%.
 - C. Community Partnership- Bluemercury event was a huge success. Interesting situation....
 - D. Maria- Auction...such a great success. Next year Cheryl is looking for a co-chair. More volunteers and it was great with sub committees. Thank you letter to parents for auction...will be on website.
 - E. Yifa- Teacher Appreciation first week of the break....send thank you notes for your teacher. Something planned for each day of the week and will go out for Sign up genius. Need help set up stuff. See Yifa and Lisa.....It will be first week after break....info to go out on Sign up genius.
 - F. SLT event May 3rd....Teachers and Staff performing. Children encouraged to attend. If you have child art work and family art work....they would like to have that type of artwork. Would appreciate some adult performers. 6:15 doors open for Art displays. Need help with banners and signs. SlT still talking about foreign language and how it pertains to the budget. 2 positions available on the SLT.
 - G. Open positions for President....nominations from now till 5/24th meeting. Treasurers- nominate Rachel Fink and Sheryar....VP of Communications...Stephanie German and Chris Walsh. VP of Community Affairs...Cybele and Liz, VP of Fundraising, SLT positions, Alexis and Jill Gabin. Email Rebecca, Susan Blank or Liz if you want to nominate yourself.
- IX. Liz: bylaw change request...to be voted on at May 24th PTA mtg. Section 3.2 in bylaws states VP of Community Affairs is currently a one person position. Liz is proposing changing it to a VP or Co-VP position, given the increase in CEC meetings, controlled choice, rezoning issues, etc.

X. Lauren: Green Team. This week is ultimate challenge on Thurs (copying from Anderson) on how to have zero waste. Collecting anything that would go into a landfill, and disposing waste that would fit into a soup quart container. Mr. Javidi has implemented Trivia Fridays.

XI. Adjourn

A. Liz makes a motion to adjourn. Jill seconds. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.