

Minutes – PA Meeting 12/15/16 (Submitted by Julie Subrin)

6:05 p.m. Meeting called to order

Minutes approved – Julie Subrin

Principal's Report – Mary McDonald

- School report card is now available online. We saw ELA gains, but some problem areas related to math, and ELL students, that are now developing strategies to improve.
- Special ed teacher will now float among classes.
- Starting an after school program for students who need more help, and an a.m. program for students who need a little help
- lots of grant applications have gone out, with help from the PA grants committee – for School Wellness (gym equipment), additional Responsive Classroom training
- School added three school aids
- CAMBA has a new director
- custodian – we are back to “temporary care” status
- Allison Becker will officially become an assistant principal in December
- We have a mental health professional, David, on site, providing support but not on site services. He attends family meetings and shares resources.
- Also have a behavior specialist focusing on the 3rd grade, helping with behavior management techniques
- School is offering three tours to prospective families. So far, good turnout.
- Clubs: plan is for them to begin Wed, Jan 18. Will find out when letters are supposed to go out to families to sign up.
- School is renovating two bathrooms on the first floor to make them handicap accessible, as per a city wide initiative.
- Ten teachers were nominated for Big Apple awards, by parents and by the school. They are among 1,000 finalists.
- Parent Coordinator: After the most recent round of applicants, they have decided to open the search up again. They are seeking someone with experience in school planning, and, ideally, someone who is bilingual. The job position has been posted.
- Looking into hiring a group to come into the school during lunch and help with play
- Guidance counselor Sophie Krevsky is retiring. Her last day is in December.

Treasurer's Report – Norma Gonzalez & Liz Fleischman

- Discussion of chess money, which is held in the PA bank account, but belongs to the chess club.
- Motion passed that we will request chess coach Ian West or a parent to provide transparent accounting of where the money comes from and how it is spent.
- Also, chess club should be urged to have a parent rep attend PA meetings to serve as a liaison between the club and the PA.
- Discussion: Have any teachers taken advantage of the New Victory Theater, to whom we paid \$200 (?) so that classes can go see plays at a discount.

External Fundraising – Susanna Stein

-We are sending out an end of year solicitation letter, to be dropped off at homes in the neighborhood.

Upcoming Event: Unity Night – Julie Subrin

-PS 139 is participating in an event hosted by PS 217 which will provide legal advice and other resources to people in our community who are anxious about the impact of the new administration taking office in January. There will be interpreters for many languages.

7:00 p.m. Meeting Adjourned