

Minutes – PA Meeting 4/20/17 (Submitted by Julie Subrin)

6pm - Meeting called to order

Minutes approved – Julie Subrin

Treasurer’s Report – Norma Gonzalez

-current balance, as of 3/24: \$31,182.86

Upcoming Events

PTA Fun Run – Malika Green & Claire Pearce

-It’s 5/13. Sign up!

-Will also be doing weekly Friday a.m. walk/runs – meet in front of school at 8:15.

Multicultural Night – Natalee Stephens and Megan Jonynas

-5/5, 5:30 – 8:30

-looking for people to host tables representing different countries, and to bring food for buffet

-also need volunteers for set-up, clean-up

-2 baskets will be raffled off, with money to go to PA

-henna, performances in auditorium

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon – Heather Eisen

-6/7, 11-1:30

-need volunteers to make food, help set up, serve, and clean up

Assembly Member Robert Carroll

-Introducing himself, sharing updates on state budget and battles over Campaign for Fiscal Equity
\$\$ 5/10 will be holding event with Scott Stringer on how state and federal budgets.

-Discussion about why state and local grants take so long to reach the school

Unity Night – Megan Demarkis

-This is in collaboration with PS 217, which helped form Ditmas Civic, a group to support immigrant and other local communities under threat.

-PS 217 recruited parent organizers with connections to language groups in the school to survey needs, diversify PA, expand translation capabilities. They used Title I money to pay stipends.

-Motion to add VP of Family Engagement to the PA board. Motion passed.

-PS 139 hosting 3rd Unity Night on 4/28. Will have representatives of outside groups – Legal Aid Society, ACLU, Flatbush Tenants Coalition, etc – presenting in Spanish, Creole, other languages

-after presentations, will have potluck, and tables with info

Principal’s Report – Mary McDonald

-Pre-K and K getting an extended gardening program, 10 sessions for each pre-k student and parents with Farmers Fred and Kate

-Yoga instruction is now happening in 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades. Teacher visits 2 classes per period; self-contained classes get full period instruction.

-4th graders starting their chess unit.

-5th graders have a hip hop residency and lots of senior activities

-school report card (from last year) will go up on Monday. School sees need to work on ELL and disability areas. This year, put \$\$ towards after-school and morning Reading Rescue.

-Middle school assignment letters went home today.

- Soil remediation: there were traces of PCBs in some non-play areas in school yard. Levels are not considered harmful. They will remove soil 3 feet down (?), and re-test after.
- We are now offering on-site psychotherapy in collaboration with the Office for Mental Health. Hope to later offer to the community.
- Upcoming SLT meetings will focus on budget, clusters – welcome family input.
- Ice cream will now be sold every Friday at lunch. \$1. It's a fundraiser so the school has petty cash for emergencies, etc.
- Kitchen staff has been replaced
- Requesting \$ from PA to help pay for books for Summer Slide. The school has enough to give books to Pre-K through 4; would like money for 5th grade. PA will discuss.
- Reviews summer school policy. Summer school will be at PS 152.
- During May, the school will host 4 Saturday sessions on therapeutic crisis intervention and de-escalation strategies.

Teacher Supply Closet – Val Kostinenko

-This year, PA budgeted \$5,000 for supply closet materials. To fully stock it, and reduce requests for supplies from families she recommends we raise to \$11,000. Could have teachers make baskets to raffle off to fund it.

Raffle drawn

Meeting adjourned