

## **Minutes – PA Meeting 10/21/15 (Submitted by Julie Subrin)**

### **Welcome**

**Minutes** from Sept 2015 meeting read and approved, pending a correction made by Jennifer Lutton for clarification.

### **President's Report – Indira Jucinic**

- We have a new Studio in a School artist – Rugby Reporter/website has details
- Harvest Night is coming up. Event planner Beth is looking for volunteers.
- Thanks to Liliana and Maria for successful Ice Cream Social
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade graduation pictures coming up

### **Principal's Report – Mary McDonald**

- Over 100 volunteers came for NY Cares Day - see Rugby Reporter for details
- APs and guidance counselor are working on a Youth Leadership Team
- Two 4<sup>th</sup> graders made an announcement about upcoming Read-a-Thon
- Our art teacher Virginia Levy got an grant in the Bronx. We now have new teacher, Ebenezer Sunder Singh.
- Book Fair coming up, week of Parent Teacher Conferences
- Parent question: Could we have a halal menu available? Mary will look into it, talk to Liz and PS 217 families who organized something there.
- PA member question: Why less test prep and homework this year? Principal McDonald says she'll set up a parent workshop on this subject.
- PA member: Could the students get tablets? Principal McDonald says she'll set up a parent workshop on this subject – learning and technology.

### **Treasurer's Report – Val Kostinenko**

- Review budget report for past month
- Show annual budget, which needs to be approved at next meeting.
- PA member suggests that we reach out to the food coop to see about getting a discount for PS 139 families – one day a month, or year, etc. He's on the board, which has annual meeting in Dec. Passed on contact info for external fundraiser chair.
- Vote on 2 requests for funds –
  - 1) \$1,500 for Pre-K "Literacy Through the Arts" materials – CD player, paints, rhythm sticks, etc. MOTION PASSED.
  - 2) Field Trip Fund - \$50 per class, to encourage class trips and so teachers don't have to pay out of pocket. MOTION PASSED.
- Claire will distribute a spreadsheet of free and low-cost field trips she prepared for her daughter's class last year.

### **SLT Report – Val Kostinenko**

- At last meeting, reviewed monthly goals for each grades
- Broke into 3 groups to review and update
- Her group discussed literacy assessment for grades 3/4/5. Will cross check to make sure grading in different classes is consistent.

### **Tech and Communications Committee Report – Claire Sering**

- The Rugby Reporter, a school community newspaper, will appear quarterly on

- website, and with a few hard copies available at the school.
- Welcomes contributions from students, parents, teachers
  - There will be a special Harvest Night edition with student contributions only. Send her photos and kid reports about the night. csering@yahoo.com
  - 
  - Next issue will come out in mid-December
  - Looking for volunteers to help with reporting. Email her.

**New Parent Outreach Committee – Liliana Vasquez**

- Starting a new Tuesday a.m. walking group. Meet in front of the school right after drop-off

**Parent Coordinator report – Maria Caridi**

- Looking for a free site to hold graduation ceremony
- Booked Spirit Cruises for 6/17 (tentative?)
- IDNY – have until the end of this year to get free memberships etc if you sign up
- Kindergarten registration begins 12/7/15 through 1/15/16
- G&T applications for grades K-2 due 11/9

**External Fundraising Committee Update – Susanna Stein**

- Had great grant planning meeting with Mary about what school wants
- PA membership needs to review bylaws for the 501-c-3 process. And will pass the bylaws at the December meeting.

**Read-a-Thon – Claire Sering**

- 11/15 at main branch of Brooklyn Library there will be a Girls Read for Girls Read-a-Thon for k-8 graders to benefit the I am Malala Fund. Would be great to have students participate.

**Raffle Drawing for \$25 gift certificate to San Remo.**

**Meeting Adjourned**