

Meeting called to order at 6:35

Parents Association of P.S. 889

21 Hinckley Place, Brooklyn NY 11218. www.ps889.com

PA Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2019

- i. Meeting called to order at 6:35pm.**
- ii. Venue: PS 889 Room 113**
- iii. Meeting minutes**

Unanimous approval of October meeting minutes.

iv. President's report

Parent pastry event was successful. These will be held quarterly.

Family involvement dates (in class activity) have been posted into Konstella calendar.

v. Treasurer's report

Budget has been updated with movie night profits, and current status of fundraising campaign. Expenses: field trips. 2nd and 1st graders have had their first trip at no expense to families. (doe covers buses.) no fees for parents. Waiting to hear back from teachers to plan for Kindergarten trip for January.

Budget had to be increased for Fall and Spring concerts. Money was spent on materials to create mini bouquets for families to buy. \$200 was set aside for this. PA will also be funding pre performance pizza party for kids in afterschool.

Arts and crafts fair to be sponsored by PA. PA will plan how we can take donations for art and craft supplies.

Vote for budget increases. Budget increases approved.

vi. SLT Report

Hiring another School Aide is priority. Will be beneficial to have a stable person in the lunchroom as opposed to rotating teachers. Principal wants to invest in teacher professional development for reading and writing instruction. Also thinking about science and math enrichment. Seeking parents who can lead such workshops for students. All SLT meetings dates to be put on Konstella calendar. Observers are welcome (can't vote on things.)

Update on outside signage. Chris has discussed partnering with 890. Looking into have meeting with MS 890's PA.

vii. Communication Committee

Focusing on completing directory. Only missing information for 25 families. Hoping to get more than just emails. Still working to streamline information from all these apps. Dojo is for direct contact between teachers and families. Discussing with Ms. Anderson and teachers how to use

Konstella for communicating important information; i.e. publishing party dates, field trip chaperone volunteer sign up. Class parent sign up. Coming up with framework for getting info from teachers and school up on Konstella. Primarily for parents to reach out to each other.

Language access committee – looking for volunteers to translate information from PA to all families. Committee set up on Konstella, parents can go directly on there to sign up.

Fundraising committee report

Annual campaign at \$8500. This does not include corporate matching. Average of \$188 per donation. Only around 23 percent of families have donated. More donations made through Konstella this year. Class reps? Might be handy to have a class rep to encourage donations.

Movie night raised about \$400. Next one in January. Seeking people to request local businesses to donate to spring auction.

Donations can be made on fb but don't count toward goal.

Grants -

Committee has communicated with Ms. Anderson about potential grants, and work is in progress.

Events committee

Picture day – on December 17th Stomping Ground photos. PA gets money if over 50% participation in families buying. We'll receive 15% of profits. Will push this through Konstella and backpack flyers. Sibling photos can be arranged.

PA looking into having Yearbooks made this year.

Parents night out will have to be rescheduled; was planned on date of Build the Block meeting.

Need volunteers for selling concessions at fall concerts.

Field trips

No updates. Waiting to hear back from teachers about dates. Younger students can't take bus. Encourage parents to ask teachers about Kindergarten field trip.

Gardening committee

Clean up day was successful. Successful harvest. Ideas for what to do with harvest: Farmer's market, donate foods to shelter. Nature base is selling Christmas trees, \$5 will go to PA if it is mentioned that our school has a school garden. 3rd street and bond. PA will make Konstella announcement.

viii. Principal's report

Mental Health Consultant – Sasha. She wants to link mental health organizations to our school. She has recently done a yoga and mindfulness training. Introduced NYCwell resources. Sasha cannot do 1 on 1 counseling but can do groups. Teacher will let families know when Sasha is engaging with their class.

Principal wants sessions to happen and for families to be invited to participate, and for families to reach out directly to Sasha for assistance. We can make of this what we wish. Sasha will reach out directly to Emalia for insight on workshops. Sasha has done a mindfulness PD for staff. Has worked in the lunchroom on Fridays to help make it a more relaxed environment.

Lunchtime – Kitchen supervisor willing to meet to discuss food health and options.

Playtime – There are no DOE guidelines, kids will go outside in the cold. Goal is to at least let kids outside for 10 minutes. Aides lead Simon Says game and other activities inside. If outside is unsafe/too wet, kids won't go. School will accommodate doctor orders for any child. There are stations with different activities for children to do during inside time.

Around \$100k coming in due to IEPs and enrollment updates. Hiring a school aid is the principal's priority. Looking for more science instruction, and more professional development for writing instruction. It has yet to be determined if we are a Title 1 school. That status would get us more funding.

Great turnout out for parent teacher conferences.

ix. old Business

Risers - in touch with company and trying to get them before 2020.

x. New business

Flower Bouquets will be made from 4:30 – 6pm on the day of the concert.

Social justice committee for PA? Covering topics like equity, racial justice, food justice. What will that look like and consist of for our purposes?

Traffic meeting – Getting rid of left turns from Coney Island Ave onto Church Avenue was discussed.

Concerns about truck traffic. Waiting to hear more from Ms. Noto. Speedbumps on Albemarle potential.

December 4th build a block event – info to be put on Lonstella.

xi. Meeting adjourned at 7:35