



**PTA General Meeting
December 15, 2021
Meeting Minutes**

Principal's Report - Bob Bender

- Gratitude for all the PS11 teachers toggling between remote and live. These incredible teachers, Dawn, Cassadra and staff help make the school the special place it is. Maria is the new school secretary who took over from Phyllis to mark attendance. Thank you to all the families who have sent support during this time.
- There's been a notice for nationwide violence threats at school through tik-tok. While I can choose to ignore it, the children's safety is more important, and while it's a beautiful day outside, the kids are staying inside today.
- Please keep your kids at home if they are sick (not just covid sick but even with a cold).
- Reminder to take the screener every day. I'm having many instances where symptomatic kids are getting pulled out of class and then needing to track parents down.
- Vaccinations - a very large percentage of our students are vaccinated. School doesn't have detailed info that is kept with the DOE. Please send me vaccination info IF you get contacted by me or the school.
- Quarantining for 2 weeks is required if your child is covid-19 positive and not fully vaccinated at time of exposure. This is a DOH rule.
- Situation room: they are overloaded: went from 200 phone calls/day to over a 1000 cases a day. So they have devised a new process. The principal can now determine who is a close contact instead of submitting stats and waiting for directions from the situation room. Right now that is determined as anyone within 6 feet for a total 10 minutes over a period of 24 hours.
- If you are reporting a positive case - please send a photo/copy of the lab preformed test result to Bob - this will make the process much easier.
- Right now 5 classrooms are partially or fully closed. I need families to understand that while each class has one or 2 highly qualified teachers - they cannot teach both live and remote simultaneously.
- I honestly deeply believe we are doing a phenomenal job and that the teachers are incredible. Please understand if the person who has covid is the teacher and they are actually sick, they cannot work.

Parent Coordinator's Report - Stephen McGill

- 2 reminders: K application process is open, families eligible for Sept 2022 enrollment can now go to the DOE website and start application
- Pre-K kids at PS11 still have to apply to Kindergarten
- If you have a sibling at PS11, please enter that info in the application form (name and sibling ois #), especially if you are an out of zone family
- 5th grade middle school enrollment: information is being sent out this week

SLT Report - Jordan Wright

- Jackie Paolone for Jordan
- SLT will be working on FAQ sheet around covid protocols next Tuesday
- Name change committee extending the deadline for families votes. Families can vote with their children's credentials online. Please email me if you have any questions. <https://forms.gle/U5gdrZq8DRKKe9bs7>



President's Report - Jackie Paolone & Lisa Cox (ps11ptapresident@gmail.com)

- safety update: Hopefully we have made some progress. The precinct has been responsive and working with us. More frequent police presence and some arrests made on 8th ave. We will continue to have constant contact with the officers and the precinct.
- Jackie - thank you to this ps11 administration for doing a stellar job around covid times. We, Lisa and I, really appreciate you guys as well as all support staff and all the PS11 families.

Budget / Finance Report - Kunal and Maria (ps11treasurerchelsea@gmail.com)

- Finance report was shared by Maria
- \$45K raised for this month and \$6600 paid deposit for DC trip. Year to date: \$113K raised and have spent \$100K on programming.

Fundraising Report - Mori Ninomiya & Tess Knoebel (ps11annualfund@gmail.com)

- Read-a-thon update by Shelly O'Sullivan: Planning for 2 weeks in February 2-16 with 50% participation goal, we are thinking of clever ideas to incentivise the kids to read
- brought in almost \$30K Facebook Giving Tuesday match (before match) will find out in January how we might get from Facebook - super grateful to everyone - thank you
- Annual Fund update by Mori: We will be in front of the school collecting this coming Tuesday before the end of the year
- School participation is already over 50% - this will help with going after philanthropic organization to donor matching

Events Report - Leslie Sloane & Lucy Flint (ps11ptaevents@gmail.com)

- Spring Festival - still planning on Fall Festival carried forward
- Pre-covid we used to do potluck at the beginning and end of the year. It was a very school community inclusive event - we want to bring back that vibe - with an end of year celebration
- We are still looking to have a gala
- If you are interested in volunteering please shoot us an email

Programs Report - Kristina and Hammond & Domenica Mastroianni (ps11ptaprograms@gmail.com)

- We had a great book fair. Sales and donations were beyond expectation, about \$15K. Virtual book fairs were about \$5K and \$3K last year.
- If anybody would like a book for their child that wasn't able to participate in Book Fair, please reach out to us.
- Merchandise - Tess will be outside the school at dropoff. Family pack t-shirts for \$28 (1 adult + 1 child) and lego t-shirts amongst other things will be available.
- January will be the next chess tournament.

Membership Report - Jen Dickson & Steve (ps11volunteer@gmail.com)

- (Jen) No news but would like to thank all the volunteers who showed up for the vaccine clinics.
- There will be more community coffees on the horizon, so please be on the lookout!



Communications Report - Pia Padukone & Julie Carpenter (ptaps11@gmail.com)

- No updates for today

Community Q&A

- PLEASE NOTE: PTA meetings are only open to the school community. If you do not have a child who attends PS11, you are not allowed to attend. Please sign in to these meetings on the sign-in sheet posted on the chat.
- Covid Q& A with Bob:
- IF your child is under quarantine (but NOT class wide) - you can ask your teacher if they'll provide work but please understand that they may not be able to.
- We are now allowed to test vaccinated adults if there's time at the end of the day
- PS11 Afterschool exposure = PS11 school exposure
- (Parent) Can we get a testing van at school? PTA can organize? (Bob) it's certainly an idea but I think it's dangerous territory
- (Jackie) Moves unnamed participants to waiting room
- (Parent) Are devices available? (Bob) Yes please let Bob or your teacher know if you need a device.
- If a teacher has covid - teachers can't return to school for 10 days while kids can return after 8. This would mean a substitute teacher is needed for the last 3 days. Please keep expectations realistic. Substitute teachers cannot teach remote, nor can they necessarily teach where teachers left off. Best combo is your child+your teacher.
- The name change committee has done an incredible job. At the presentation forum the kids were being asked some very difficult questions, and their answers were so thoughtful. After casting my vote I went and balled my eyes out as soon as cameras were off.
- (Elkarimmy) - you can watch the videos and cast your vote through your child's nyc students account.
- The second session is recorded.
- Next week, second graders doing filmmaking "take two" will be premiering their documentary films

Jackie closes the meeting - Please stay safe, have a nice weekend and continue to take care of your kiddos and yourselves!

Adjournment 10:12am