

P.S.11 PTA

SARAH J. GARNET SCHOOL

PTA General Meeting February 16, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Welcome

- 9:03 am

Principal's Report - Bob Bender

- Gratitude
- Reviewing mid-year data
- Parent Teacher conferences will take place during the first week of March
- Report cards are out

Parent Coordinator's Report – Stephen McGill

- Pre-K application closes on March 1st
- NYC School Survey
 - Please complete the survey ASAP
 - [NYC School Survey](#)
 - The survey questions align with what's important about schools and how you feel about PS 11 and the information is used by the SLT and administration to make adjustments for the school.
 - We want to ensure that there is good representation of parents getting involved
- School photos
 - Will be ready for viewing and purchase next week; Stomping Ground Photos will send out an email with information on how parents can view and purchase photos
 - Photo retakes will be on March 5th
 - Parents can also request sibling portraits on March 5th
 - [Stomping Ground Photo | Pre-k thru 5th grade Picture Day 2023-24 \(iloveschoolpictures.com\)](#)

SLT Report - Courtney Kapes Lewis (ps11SLT@gmail.com)

- We are asking for nominations for a new member to join us for the last 4 meetings of the year; this is a short term post

P.S.11 PTA

SARAH J. GARNET SCHOOL

- A way of supporting Mr. Bender and the teachers, as well as the entire parent population at the school
- Nominations were made and elections were held; Dara Genisi won.

President's Report - Lisa Cox & Joanna Cohn Weiss (ps11ptapresident@gmail.com)

- Gratitude
- Many recent events at school: Staff Appreciation Day, KGG Valentine's Day, 100th day of school. We appreciate the continued presence of volunteers at school.
- Motion to approve January minutes passes.
- Nominating Committee for Executive Board positions for next year
 - The Committee will try to match people with roles that are best suited for their skill sets
 - Anyone who is interested in running for the Executive Board can talk to the Nominating Committee, but that is not required
 - Nominating Committee will post the slate for the Executive Board during the May meeting
 - Elections will be held in June - must run as a pair and be present at that meeting or have a representative at that meeting
 - If you are interested in being on the Nominating Committee, please email ps11ptapresident@gmail.com
- Health and Safety
 - If your child is sick, please let the school know
 - If your child has lice, please take care of it ASAP and please let your teacher and Mr. McGill know so they can alert parents to check their kids and help stop the spread
 - DOE policy and procedures on lice and communicable diseases are available on the DOE website – it is not a medical website
 - Safety Meeting is coming up on February 28th: open meeting

Budget / Finance Report - Maria Melendez & Ellie Sze (ps11treasurerchelsea@gmail.com)

- Had a strong November and December, but slower in January. Most of last month's fundraising came through corporate matches
- Reminder that many expenses are backloaded in the budget

Fundraising Report - Jax Cohen & Mori Ninomiya (ps11annualfund@gmail.com)

- Gala Auction: Please consider any auction items that you or your connections can donate for the auction; we can connect you to the auction committee

PS.11 PTA

SARAH J. GARNET SCHOOL

- Please email ps11annualefund@gmail.com with your auction items or connections
- Read-a-Thon
 - Materials and signage will roll out right after the break
 - Launches on March 15th
- Please make your Annual Fund donations:
 - [Annual Fund \(givingfuel.com\)](https://givingfuel.com)
 - [PS 11 Annual Fund 2023-24 \(paypal.com\)](https://www.paypal.com)
 - Make Annual Fund checks payable to: Friends and Family of PS 11
 - [PS 11 PTA | Annual Fund Giving Tipsheet - Google Docs](#)

Programs Report - Tess Knoebel-Peterfreund & Shelley O'Sullivan **(ps11ptaprograms@gmail.com)**

- Math Club
 - Needs volunteers to come and lead sessions
 - Will start after Young Artists is complete
- Cooking Program
 - Need someone to co-chair the cooking program
- Merchandise
 - Also in need of a co-chair
 - Looking for a toy designer - to make a tech pack to turn our bird into a stuffie to sell
- If interested in signing up for any of the co-chair roles: ps11ptaprograms@gmail.com
- Chess
 - [PS 11 Chess Club & Team — Impact Coaching Network](#)
 - [All Girls NYC Chess Championship | Chess In The Schools](#)
 - Everyone is welcome to play, even if your child doesn't participate in chess through ICN or PS11's Afterschool program
 - Looking for volunteers to help sell concessions - need 4th and 5th grade volunteers
 - [3/2 PS 11 Chess tournament — Signup Sheet | SignUp.com](#)
 - chelseachessparents@gmail.com
- Young Artists
 - Kids are having fun and enjoying the program

PS.11 PTA

SARAH J. GARNET SCHOOL

- o We understand that many were disappointed to not get into the program - hundreds of children applied, but we only had about 100 spots
- o The only way to guarantee that your child gets a spot is if you come volunteer
- o Please consider volunteering next year, as we are always oversubscribed. The more volunteers, the more classes we can hold and the more children who can join.
- Yearbook
 - o Please submit photos.
- Musical
 - o In need of another videographer.

Events Report - Lucy Flint & Amanda Moskowitz (ps11ptaevents@gmail.com)

- Thank you for all the Staff Appreciation Day and KGG Valentines helpers this month
- Gala
 - o Please save the date for the Gala: May 15th
 - o Please email if you're interested in helping out
 - o Looking for a professional auctioneer who can offer their services at no or low cost, please let us know

Membership Report - Kristina Hammond & Kirsten Magen (ps11volunteer@gmail.com)

- Thank you for all the recent volunteer help
- Need additional volunteers for:
 - o Audit Committee
 - o 5th grade musical
 - o Chess
- Please look for sign-ups in the next PS11 Digest

Communications Report - Pia Padukone, Maria Thomatos & Berman Fenelus (ptaps11@gmail.com)

- PS 11 Digest "The Roundup" summarizes the PTA meetings

PS.11 PTA

SARAH J. GARNET SCHOOL

Members at Large – Becker Chase and Kiran Patel

- Participatory Budget
 - PS11 ideas are still amongst the top 35 (improvements to the auditorium) and we are working to get that on the ballot
 - Voting period is April 6-14
- Audit committee
 - If you like numbers, please consider volunteering your time to help

Community Q&A

- The Ryan Center
 - Currently have day-to-day substitute nurses
- Black History month
- SLT has been working with the school social worker on identity work
 - A respect and identity curriculum, of which antisemitism is a part
 - May is Jewish American Heritage Month
 - [Jewish American Heritage Month \(nyc.gov\)](https://www.nyc.gov/jah)
- Math curriculum
 - Math coaches will be planning some family workshops to give more info on the math curriculum
- 4th grade camping trip is coming up
- Have a safe, happy, and healthy break - please check your kids before returning to school

Adjournment 9:52 am