

PS.11 PTA

SARAH J. GARNET SCHOOL

PTA General Meeting March 15, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Welcome

- 9:03 am

Principal's Report - Bob Bender

- Gratitude - Mr. McGill, parent coordinator will be retiring after 21 years of services at PS 11

Parent Coordinator's Report – Stephen McGill

- Gratitude for the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful community
- Middle school offers going out on 4/3/24 to 5th grade families
- Kindergarten and G&T offers going out on 3/27/24
- PreK offers going out 5/14/24
- G&T application opens for grades 1-3 on 4/15/24; can apply via DOE website
- NYC School Survey
 - Information about the survey has gone home to families
 - Please complete the survey ASAP - can complete on paper and mail in, complete it online through the survey site, or go through your NYSCA account to complete the survey
 - [NYC School Survey](#)
- School photos
 - PS 11 receives a percentage of proceeds
 - [Stomping Ground Photo | Pre-k thru 5th grade Picture Day 2023-24 \(iloveschoolpictures.com\)](#)
- Summer Rising Program
 - Application is on MySchools account
 - Host site for our school is at PS 111 on 53rd Street

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

- Excited to announce the PS 11 Potluck is resuming: the big yard will be open for families to bring food and celebrate the end of a great year

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

- Motion to approve February minutes - approved
- Gratitude for Mr. McGill's years of service
- PTA Executive Board and SLT elections will be happening in June
 - 2 open seats on SLT board
 - 2 year term
 - Meetings are once a month on a Tuesday from 3-5pm
 - All positions are open on PTA Executive Board (EB)
 - Anyone interested must run in a pair
 - Meetings are once a month on a Wednesday evening 6-8pm for EB and Friday mornings 10 days after prior EB meeting for the General Meeting
 - Nominating Committee will be putting together a slate and nominations can also be added at the June General PTA Meeting
 - Email the committee if interested: ps11nominatingcom@gmail.com

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

- February total fundraising consistent with January, slower month
- Reminder that many expenses are backloaded in the budget
- We're currently at one-third of budget for spending and not quite one-half of fundraising goal
 - May need to use reserve fund if fundraising goal isn't met

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

- Gratitude to all those contributing and supporting the school
- Discussed with Bob where PTA funds go:
 - This year a lot was spent on **personnel** (all the amazing specialty teachers), **per diem costs** (substitute teachers, overtime for teachers who help with after school activities), **enrichment activities** (chess, field trips, theater programs, etc), **school supplies** for all students, **air conditioners** for classrooms and cafeteria
 - PS 11 has such amazing amenities because of the annual fund
 - The school believes these enrichment programs should be available and equitable to all students and the annual fund ensures this

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- If budget cuts are needed, programming is usually cut first, followed by personnel
 - Academic success of every student is still prioritized
- More information about how the PTA supports PS 11 here: <https://ps11pta.givingfuel.com/annual-fund>
- Email the Fundraising Committee with any questions: 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
 - Please email ps11annualfund@gmail.com with your auction items or connections
- Read-a-Thon
 - <https://ps11pta.givingfuel.com/crowd/2024-read-a-thon>

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

- Gratitude to team putting on the Read-a-Thon
- Math Club
 - Starting on April 4
 - Open to all students in grades 3rd-5th who are interested in Math
- Chess
 - Congratulations to the K-1, U400 who placed 3rd at the New York State Tournament!
 - Gratitude to volunteer 4th and 5th graders who helped sell concessions at the last Chess in Schools tournament PS 11 hosted
- Spelling Bee
 - Congrats to PS11 student who won the Manhattan-wide Spelling Bee and went on to NYC Spelling Bee!
- Young Artists
 - Program is wrapping up for the year next week
 - Looking for more family volunteers for next year, as the waitlists were long
- Yearbook
 - Advertisements help offset the cost of the yearbook
 - Every student receives a yearbook for free
 - Please submit any photos you may have
- 5th Grade Show - March 22 and 23
- Merchandise chair needed for next year

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

- Gratitude to Mr. McGill
- Committee is in place dedicated to staff appreciation, and they are planning for next year already
 - If looking to get involved, send email to ps11ptaevents@gmail.com
- Gala
 - Please save the date for the Gala: May 15th
 - Purchase tickets early, \$150/ticket
 - Early ticket purchasing helps with planning and there will be incentives to those who purchase early
 - Auction team is putting together amazing packages but still looking for vacation home/experience items

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

- Thank you for all the recent volunteer help
- Need additional volunteers for:
 - 5th grade musical - bring/sell baked goods during the shows, AV assistance, help needed behind the scenes
 - Gala will need volunteers - more information coming soon
- Garden Day - March 16

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

- PS 11 Digest "The Roundup" summarizes the PTA meetings -- positive feedback received thus far
- Please reach out if you need something printed/created that you are working on for the school

Members at Large – Becker Chase and Kiran Patel

- Participatory Budget
 - PS 11 is on the ballot!
 - New central air conditioning equipment for auditorium

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- 8 other projects also on ballot
- You're eligible to vote if you are 11 years or older, live/work/attend school in the district
 - Please save the date for early voting (April 4, 6-8pm) and Online Voting April 6-April 14.
- Gala corporate sponsors have been secured but looking for more

Adjournment 10:01 am