



**PTA General Meeting
December 13, 2024
Meeting Minutes**

Welcome

- 9:02 am
- Happy Birthday, Joanna!
- Students enjoying 5th grade Washington DC trip

Principal's Report - Bob Bender

- Gratitude to our PS11 community, PTA financial supporters, and volunteers for the dozens of extracurricular programs unique to PS11
- 5th graders in Washington D.C.
- 4th graders heading out on Transit Museum field trip
- Weather is cold, but recess remains outside in most circumstances; make sure your child is dressed warmly, gloves, hats, and mittens are bound to be lost, we have a great Lost & Found team
- Bob submitted an application this morning with respect to new legislation/DOE mandates to reduce class sizes; if the request is fully funded then class sizes at PS11 could be reduced to ~20-23 as early as next year

Parent Coordinator's Report – Joan Brothers

- Accolades for Nurse Danielle
- Kindergarten applications close on January 24; pre-K families are NOT automatically enrolled
- School tours coming up
- Please get PS11 photo IDs for yourselves if you do not already have one
- Thank you for lice checks

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

- Lunch & Learn series for parents, noon video calls, Jan 15, Feb 11, Apr 4
 - Jan 15 - Anxiety
 - Feb 11 - Collaborative Problem Solving
 - Apr 4 - Executive Functioning
- Book Club starting
 - The Anxious Generation meetings will be after drop off on Zoom - March 15, May 1
 - 30 copies will be available to parents for pickup
- Mandatory HIV curriculum starting in February, mandated by DOE
- Hand-washing device "Soapy" coming into the school to help students improve their handwashing with sensors and interactivity/feedback on their handwashing
- Enrichment proposal and more: <https://ps11chelsea.org/slt-overview/>

President's Report – Joanna Cohn Weiss & Pia Padukone (ps11ptapresident@gmail.com)

- November 2024 meeting minutes approval
- Teacher gifts for the holidays - individual gifts are not accepted, you may contribute to the class gift for teachers
- No major issues to report
- For any safety issues, please call police

PS11 PTA

SARAH J. GARNET SCHOOL

Budget / Finance Report – Peggy Kauh (ps11treasurerchelsea@gmail.com)

- Presentation of Treasurer's Report, some highlights:
 - Net Fundraising ~\$19k
 - Total Expenses - ~\$20k
 - Net Income: ~-\$1.6k
 - Raised: ~\$126k
 - Most of 2024-25 PTA Funding/Expenses are allocated to School Administrative Support, School Staff Support, Field Trip Expenses
- Question about whether these reports are posted on the website
- Appeal from Presidents to share more with other PS11 parents who are unable to attend PTA meetings and are unaware of the long list of programs and support services sponsored by PTA donations and volunteerism

Fundraising Report - Becker Chase & Jax Cohen (ps11annualfund@gmail.com)

- Fundraising committee open to new fundraising ideas from all
- Appeal to share more with other PS11 parents who are infrequent PTA meeting attendees to give 😊
- Donation webpage includes a new "Gift guide" - donation ideas for the holidays
 - <https://ps11pta.givingfuel.com/2024-holiday-giving-guide>
- November was a light fundraising month; renewed momentum in December
- Presently at 32% raised of 100% of plan, with a goal of 50% by end of December
- Consider asking friends & family who would send gifts to your child or family to give to PS11

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

- Please email us with any events ideas
- More volunteers are welcome to join the Events team in brainstorming and planning
- First big event of the year will be in January - Comedy Night at Gotham Comedy
 - Information coming out early next week

Programs Report - Shelley O'Sullivan & Tara Murphy (ps11ptaprograms@gmail.com)

- Young Artists program
 - Starting soon (students though they will have to trade off lunch recess to attend)
 - 10-12 kids per class, gallery show after the curriculum
 - Volunteers welcome (do not need to be an artist!)
 - If you volunteer your child gets a guaranteed place
 - The more volunteers, the more capacity overall
- Chess Club
 - 18 students to national competition in D.C.; 3,000 students in attendance total
 - New student enrollees welcome!
- Merch - 20% discount on all merch items for the holidays until December 31
- 100th day - February - normally only a kindergarten program, this year for the entire school as it enters its 100th year, one more volunteer welcome/needed! One or two days of activities for volunteers.
- Library - two more volunteer librarians needed, come check it out for one hour and see!
- Math Club - kids doing well, some with national recognition! Need more volunteers otherwise program may not be able to continue (many current volunteers are 5th grade parents)

Membership Report - Kristina Hammond & Kiran Patel (ps11volunteer@gmail.com)

- Thank you to class liaisons for your volunteerism and engagement



- Still looking for someone to manage sound for the 5th grade show

Communications Report - Marina Thomatos & Kirsten Magen (ptaps11@gmail.com)

- Holiday Gift Guide coming out over email

Members at Large

- No report

Community Q&A

- N/A

Adjournment 10:11 am