



## **SARAH J. GARNET SCHOOL**

### **PTA General Meeting**

**March 14, 2025**

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **Welcome**

- Meeting opens at 9:07am

#### **Principal's Report - Bob Bender**

- Starting with gratitude to parents and Ms. Rosevear
- New school sign! Sarah J. Garnet School
- Participation reviewed for the success of "Disconnect to Connect" family night
- Student committee has a new event "Find a new Friend"
- Decorating committee started planning for school dance
- Fifth graders starting ballroom dancing
- Foundational literacy instructions started
- Book club's next meeting will be March 18, 2025 for the book "The Anxious Generation"

#### **Parent Coordinator's Report – Joan Brothers**

- Summer rising applications opened March 4 and will close on March 28, offers to be released in April (myschools.org)
- Make-up picture day will be on March 17. There will be no sibling pictures this year
- NYC School Survey reminders; please respond, we are hoping for 100% participation this year. Note student OSIS numbers are posted on the letters sent home. Can be completed online at:  
<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/reports/school-quality/nyc-school-survey>
- Kindergarten admissions will come April 2nd
- Middle school admissions will be out April 9th at myschools.org and letters will be sent home
- Gifted & Talented program applications will open April 12th and close on May 9th
- Reminder to look at NYC Kids Rise Save for College program: <http://nyckr.org/st-register>

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

- [Bob reporting on Courtney's behalf]
- April 4 - upcoming webinar in conjunction with SLT - Understanding Executive Functioning
- SLT positions opened for next fall mentioned; nominations can be sent to: [ps11slt@gmail.com](mailto:ps11slt@gmail.com)

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

- February 2025 General Meeting minutes - voted to approve
- Sharing general recommendations to prepare for end of school year accelerating
- Importance of fundraising and volunteerism
- Push to parents to volunteer 11 hours per year for PS11; email [Ps11volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:Ps11volunteer@gmail.com) to get involved
- Call for candidate interest for PTA Executive Board positions; nominations can be sent to [ps11nominatingcom@gmail.com](mailto:ps11nominatingcom@gmail.com)
- Call for family liaisons in the beginning of April
- Safety recap: communicate trash issues to 311 and emergency or dangerous situations to 911

### **Treasurer's Report – Peggy Kauh & Eleanor Sze (ps11treasurerchelsea@gmail.com)**

- Feb 2025
  - Total Fundraising - \$7,232 (mostly a reflection of lagging corporate matching)
  - Total Expenses - \$759
  - Net Fundraising - \$(1,280)- (includes cost of comedy night)
  - Net Income - \$(2,036.69)
- YTD
  - Total Fundraising (Net) - \$284,204 (51%)
  - Total funding- \$418,892 (58%)
  - Net Income - (\$134,754)

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

- Read-a-Thon is ongoing right now! It is focused on fundraising from extended family (not parents); represents 9% of our fundraising goal. Ends March 23. <https://ps11pta.givingfuel.com/crowd/2025readathon>
  - Questions or request for assistance can be sent to [PS11readathon@gmail.com](mailto:PS11readathon@gmail.com)
- \$552,625 Net is our FY25 goal (~70% from Annual Fund, ~20% auctions and events)
- We are currently at 56.8% of our 100% fundraising goal
- Student enrichments donations can be made at [ps11pta.givingfuel.com/annual-fund](https://ps11pta.givingfuel.com/annual-fund)
- Presentation by Sarah Hernandez about Read-a-Thon
- Fiscal year ends June 30

### **Events Report - Amanda Moskowitz & Jess Kahn (ps11ptaevents@gmail.com)**

- Spring Gala will be on May 20th with “100 years” as the theme. Will be held at Slate on W 21st.
- \$150 per ticket; tickets can be purchased at <https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/win-a-affle-ticket-to-the-2025-gala>
- This year there will be a raffle for 5 tickets to the gala at \$5 per raffle ticket. Link to participate: <https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/win-a-affle-ticket-to-the-2025-gala>
- Auction team looking for volunteers in prep for spring gala auction to source experiences, gift cards, service and items to list for our silent auction; can be submitted to the silent auction at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf5j3FVAp8upv98NcBmfvG2GmKILo-ob6X4pgvT5g8X5MUHcA/viewform>
- Please reach out to Jess and Caroline at [auctions@ps11pta.org](mailto:auctions@ps11pta.org) for questions
- Push for next years volunteer team; reach out directly to events team at [ps11ptaevents@gmail.com](mailto:ps11ptaevents@gmail.com)

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

- Looking for volunteer positions this year: Field Day, Book Fair
  - Note to reach out to [Donna.Redman@hotmail.com](mailto:Donna.Redman@hotmail.com) who volunteered during the call
- Next year looking for co-chairs including: 100th Day, KG&G, Library, Field Day, AV for school shows, yearbook, PS11 Post, Lost & Found, and Math Club
- Interested parties please reach out to: [ps11volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:ps11volunteer@gmail.com)

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

- Photographer needed for 5th grade show May 28th and May 29th; 3/28 & 3/29 right after drop off at 8:30am and show dates Friday 3/28 at 5:30pm and Sat 3/29 at 10am
- Library push for volunteers email [ps11library@gmail.com](mailto:ps11library@gmail.com)
- March 15 - still taking student volunteers for chess tournament at PS11 (concession sales, etc.) <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/482899160109/false#/invitation>
- PS11 chess team sign ups can be done through <https://impactcoachingnetwork.org/chess-club-and-team/ps11>
- Looking for PS11 yearbook photos. Link for photos to be submitted to the yearbook: <https://www.buytheyearbook.com/en/bty/findmyschool>.

- Login information is [ps11yearbook@gmail.com](mailto:ps11yearbook@gmail.com), password:ps112025!
- Young artists gallery show is going to be Sunday April 27, 2025 from 1pm-4pm

**Communications Report - Marina Thomatos & Kirsten Magen ([ptaps11@gmail.com](mailto:ptaps11@gmail.com))**

- Check the PS11 website: <https://ps11chelsea.org> for more information and links to all mentioned programs and volunteer needs
- Reach out to communications team for feedback on family liaison questions at [ptaps11@gmail.com](mailto:ptaps11@gmail.com)
- Read the digest email for all pertinent details of our very busy spring semester at PS11

**Members-at-Large - Sara Burke and Gelsey Jeffreys ([ps11mlg@gmail.com](mailto:ps11mlg@gmail.com))**

- Review of Read-a-Thon prizes; including pie in the face with Principal Bender
- Link to YouTube fundraising video Minecraft theme <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bG70fKJi7nw>
- Breakfast with Bob review; included a tour and specialty teachers meeting. Joan Brothers to send a review email and how to stay involved review.

**Adjournment 10:20am**