



**SARAH J. GARNET SCHOOL**

**PTA General Meeting  
November 14, 2025  
Meeting Agenda**

**Meeting opened - 9:00 am**

**Welcome – Pia Padukone & Marina Thomatos**

- Attendance (Sign-in form: [Sign in](#))
- Gratitude to our teachers

**Principal's Report - Bob Bender**

- Gratitude to our School Leadership Team (SLT)
- First Grade students gave gratitude to our Chess program, Kindergarten lesson to begin soon.
- Third Grade show will be on November 26th at 8:45am for families
  - For early dismissal request please fill out form to be sent out by Principal
- 5th Grade DC trip is moving forward with government federal shutdown now over
- School staff has been working on the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). We are adding a 30-40 minute block of intensified ELA and Math classes for each grade.

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

- Teachers to work on classroom gratitude letter to thank our extracurricular partners including Rosie's Theatre, Circle in the Square, Take Two, etc
- Discussion of upcoming Teacher Appreciation plans
- Family Workshop Schedule:
  - December 2nd, 2025 at 12pm - Topic: Executive Functioning
  - January 12, 2025 at 12pm - Topic: Anxiety
  - March 12, 2025 at 7pm - Topic: Resilience
- Request for enrichment ideas to fill out the enrichment proposal or contact SLT at ps11SLT@gmail.com

**Parent Coordinator's Report – Joan Brothers (Jbrothers@schools.nyc.gov)**

- Lice Check report - No incidents, will come back in next week for a follow up
- Kindergarten applications will open on December 9th, as well as G&T applications - closes January 23rd
- Picture Day - Monday, November 17th (and a make-up date is January 12th, 2025)
- Middle school applications close December 12th, 2025

**President's Report - Pia Padukone & Marina Thomatos (ps11ptapresident@gmail.com)**

- Approval of October 2025 General Meeting minutes ([10.17.25 General Meeting](#))
- Capital Investment - Principal and teachers to come up with a proposal for programs or renovations that will benefit the school for years to come!

**Budget Report - Peggy Kauh & Andrew Saleh (ps11treasurerchelsea@gmail.com)**

- October Update
  - Spent 22% of Budgeted Expenses include 3rd grade show, school supplies, lifeguard staffing, Lice checks and merchandise purchases

#### **Fundraising Report - Becker Chase & Jess Galland ([give@ps11pta.org](mailto:give@ps11pta.org))**

- Currently at 17.7% of Fundraising goal; looking to reach 30% by end of November
- Goal of reaching 45% of Fundraising goal by the end of the year
- Camp Auction Success - Raised over \$3K
  - Prize winners please reach out to [Jag@ps11.org](mailto:Jag@ps11.org) for more information
- Give! Give! Give! Link: [ps11chelsea.org/donate](https://ps11chelsea.org/donate)
- Explore corporate matching opportunities with your employers:  
[doublethedonation.com/matching-gifts-UBS-AG](https://doublethedonation.com/matching-gifts-UBS-AG)
- Questions, volunteers and suggestions can be sent to [give@ps11pta.org](mailto:give@ps11pta.org)

#### **Events Report - Jess Kahn Marks & Genevieve Gorin ([ps11ptaevents@gmail.com](mailto:ps11ptaevents@gmail.com))**

- Gratitude for Mike Pezley for leading and organizing Fall Festival
- Trivia Night was a huge success; over 85 families and friends in attendance
- Comedy for a Cause to be held on January 28th- details & early VIP tickets will be out soon
- Gala Committee- Volunteer request for planning committee, reach out to [ps11ptaevents@gmail.com](mailto:ps11ptaevents@gmail.com)

#### **Membership Report - Gelsey Jeffries & Emma Wang ([ps11volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:ps11volunteer@gmail.com))**

- Gardening Club hosting the first ever Sing along on December 12th at 5:45pm.
- Flexible Volunteer opportunity sign up request:  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScRAYwkC8PKnkfCeerfdVwEdABcXi8GSzwUdy2XucK553XlhA/viewform>

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

- **Gratitude to all the PS11 kids**
- **Young Artists Intro Meeting** - Review of art programs available, will be held Friday, November 20th at 8:35am in the cafeteria
  - Program will start Mid January
  - If interested in teaching a class please reach out to [ps11youngartistprogram@gmail.com](mailto:ps11youngartistprogram@gmail.com)
- **Chess**- Thank you for Candy donations, we will be selling them at our January 10th Tournament for chess in the schools. We will be calling for more volunteers in December.
- **Merch** - Merch sales have been going great this year. With winter coming up we have lots of scarves, hats, and our new embroidered hoodies to sell. We sell merch at our morning coffee events but you can also buy online at our school website.  
<https://ps11chelseanyc.square.site/more-merch>
- **Spelling Bee** competition ended November 5th; congratulations to all the winners moving on to the Manhattan Spelling Bee in February
- **Yearbook** Upload photos now available
  - Please use this link: <http://ybkpix.com>. Sign in using this login info:  
[ps11yearbook@gmail.com](mailto:ps11yearbook@gmail.com), PASSWORD: ps112026!
  - Photo request from Family Fridays and Fall Festival event

For questions please email: [ps11yearbook@gmail.com](mailto:ps11yearbook@gmail.com)

- Math Club will be ending soon
- Sound of Music Volunteer request-Costume & Set design volunteers needed; reach out to Ms. Sarah at [schemerys@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:schemerys@schools.nyc.gov)

**Communications Report - Sara Burke & Kiran Patel ([ptaps11@gmail.com](mailto:ptaps11@gmail.com))**

- Look out for weekly digest in your inbox

**Adjournment - 9:45am**