

PS.11 PTA

SARAH J. GARNET SCHOOL

PTA General Meeting

March 13, 2026

Meeting Agenda

Meeting opened - 9:00 a.m.

Welcome – Pia Padukone & Marina Thomatos

- Attendance (Sign-in form: <https://forms.gle/FP3FxiMejjQ9mbVN8>)

Principal's Report - Bob Bender

- Thank you from kindergartners for new classroom chairs
- Thank you from 3rd graders for Circle in the Square playwriting program
- Mr. Benders Retirement Announcement
 - Thank you to Courtney and SLT for support during this process
 - 5th grade musical tonight, March 13th, at 6:30pm and tomorrow, March 14th, at 11am; show is open to the public
- Please ensure students are back immediately after Spring Break to ensure availability for spring standardized testing

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

- Announcement of Principal Bender's retirement
 - Process: Interim acting Principal → new Principal
 - Superintendent Kelly leads process, interim acting Principal to be named by mid-April; interviews will follow Chancellor Regulation 30
 - Bob's official last day - August 31, 2026
 - SLT has expressed a preference for someone from within the PS11 community to take on interim acting Principal role
 - Process will include a naming of 3 finalists, including the interim acting Principal, with input from the SLT on decision-making for the new full-time Principal
- May 29, at 7:40am-8:45am: Parent-Child book club series for grades 3-5 (The Anxious Generation / The Amazing Generation)
 - Request to complete the interest survey:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScinVNBcLIXyaV-uYxfYbWTUmalyzos6l76-w8mTqnY3q8RqA/viewform>

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

- Kindergarten offers to go out on March 31
- Kindergarten registration week of April 20 and April 27
- Middle school announcements - April 15
- Request to fill out the school survey sent home and available online:
<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/reports/school-quality/nyc-school-survey/>
- Lice checks starting on Monday, March 16

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

- Approval of [February 2026 General Meeting minutes](#)

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- Spending has begun on previously approved \$200k surplus allocations

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

- February update
 - Net income after expenditures YTD leaves us at (-13%)

Fundraising Report - Becker Chase & Jess Galland (give@ps11pta.org)

- Fundraising YTD update
 - At 55% of annual fundraising goal (versus YTD target of 68%)
- Read-A-Thon provides 8% of total Fundraising Goal
 - Raised \$34,000 (68%) so far!
- Give! Give! Give! Link: ps11chelsea.org/donate & Corporate match reminder

Events Report - Jess Kahn Marks & Genevieve Gorin (ps11ptaevents@gmail.com)

- Save the Date for the PS11 Gala will be held on May 4th at Slate
- Silent auction team is working on gathering donations, programs, and services to offer at the silent auction; details sent out to all class chats for support
- Gala Committee - Volunteer request for planning committee, reach out to ps11ptaevents@gmail.com
- Coffee Mornings - April 15, May 20, and June 10

Membership Report - Gelsey Jeffries & Emma Wang (ps11volunteer@gmail.com)

- Read-A -Thon push to sign up all students and increase participation at \$0 sign up
- Bender Bars will be back this year! Thank you Tess and Amanda
- 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)

- Seeking shadow for Field Day chairperson
- Reminder to come support the 5th grade show
 - Bake Sale donation request for baked goods to sell during showtime
- March 28 Chess team volunteer opportunity
- Yearbook - please submit photos
 - Please use this link: <http://ybkpix.com>. Sign in using this login info: ps11yearbook@gmail.com, PASSWORD: ps112026!
 - Photo uploads due March 31; 5th grade graduation ads by April 13 - FIRM deadline

Communications Report - Sara Burke & Kiran Patel (ptaps11@gmail.com)

- Look out for weekly digest in your inbox

Adjournment - 9:56 a.m.