



SARAH J. GARNET SCHOOL

**PTA General Meeting
April 24, 2026
Meeting Agenda**

Meeting opens - 9:00 a.m.

Welcome – Pia Padukone & Marina Thomatos

- Attendance (Sign-in form: [PS11 PTA General Meeting 4.24.26 Sign in](#))

Principal's Report - Bob Bender

- Thank you from Mr. Bender to the parent volunteers for welcoming new kindergartner families and assisting in registration
- Gratitude to Ms. Cassandra Gregov for State testing support schoolwide
- 2026-2027 School Calendar is out on DOE website
- PS11 is looking for to hire new teachers and a new guidance counselor for next year
- Request for families to confirm returning students to complete next year planning for class sizes
- May 5th will be Pajama day for staff and students

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

- Meeting will be held on May 29, at 7:40am-8:45am: Parent-Child book club series for grades 3-5 (The Amazing Generation)
 - Book distributions will go out this week to all book club members
- Comprehensive Lesson Planning is underway
- PS11 Potluck planning is underway
- SLT elections will be held in June for new members; looking for 2 parents to join

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

- Kindergarten registration is open now from April 20 to April 27
 - Offers expire on May 1st
- Gifted and Talented applications for 1st-4th grade opened this week
- Pre-K offers will be released on May 12th
- Summer Rising offers need to be accepted by May 5th

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

- Approval of March GM Meetings [PTA 3.13.26 Meeting Minutes](#)
- Introduction of the Nominating Committee for PTA Executive Board members
 - Elections of new Board members will happen in June PTA meeting
 - Accepting Nominations; please reach out to ps11nominatingcom@gmail.com

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

- March update
- Net income after expenditures YTD leaves us at (-32%)

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

- Fundraising YTD update
 - Read-a-Thon had the highest fundraising year ever!
 - At 60% of annual fundraising goal (versus YTD target of 70%)
- Annual Fund- Give! Give! Give! Link: ps11chelsea.org/donate & Corporate Match reminder available at <https://doublethedonation.com/matching-gifts/UBS-AG>
- Teacher Raffles Open; available for purchase at [All Items - PS11 2026 Annual Gala & Auction | GalaBid](#)
- Bender Bars; Available for purchase at [Bender Bars 2026](#)
- Gala Silent Auction will launch next week
- Family Match- Looking for families who would like to pledge for family match reach out at give@ps11pta.org

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

- PS11 Gala will be held on May 4th at Slate. Tickets available for purchase at: app.galabid.com/ps11-26-gala-auction
 - Families can purchase teacher tickets to support staff member attendance
 - RSVP by Sunday April 26th to be entered to win a bottle of Veuve Clicquot
 - Raffle for Family Photoshoot results are in
 - Volunteer sign up request at: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fH9IIKoWXuPCewbnkY-mStVJp6bjvnVwq462bM3q2zk/edit?usp=drivesdk>

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

- Coffee Mornings - Next two mornings will be held on May 6, and June 10
- Bookfair- Dates:
 - Can sign up for e-wallet
 - Envelopes will be sent home if you want to use cash
 - Parent Shopping May 21-22nd after drop off
- 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)

- Chess Tournaments
 - Volunteer opportunities for alum to sell snacks
 - 26 kids going to Baltimore for national tournament
- Young Artists program
 - Last week of programming
 - Gallery Showing will be held on May 17th at Pace Gallery from 1pm to 4pm
- Library
 - Library has been closed during state testing
 - Please have your students return all library books
- Track and Field
 - 75 current students are training for 2 qualifiers in Queens in May
 - Reach out if your child needs a new PS11 shirt email at ps11ptaprograms@gmail.com

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

- Look out for weekly digest in your inbox