



**P.S. / I.S. 276 PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION INC.**

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes:  
 5:00 - 6:09 pm  
 September 22, 2020  
 Virtual Zoom Meeting

<b>Executive Board Members 2019-2020:</b>		
<b>Co-Presidents</b>	Melinda Orlie-Katsiris	Tammy Meltzer
<b>Vice President of Fundraising</b>	Julie O'Donnell	Ashlee Wolfe
<b>Co-Secretaries</b>	Jacky Goldman	
<b>Treasurers</b>	Fatima Galarraga	Shonali Gupta
<b>Co-Assistant Treasurers</b>	Stephanie Ranft	Amy Mofsenon
<b>Vice President of Parent Relations</b>	Megan Smyser	Kathleen Sidell
<b>Vice President of Communications</b>	Christy Knettel	Nicole Elmgart
<b>School Principal</b>	Terri Ruyter	

**Present:** Melinda Orlie-Katsiris, Tammy Meltzer, Julie O'Donnell, Ashlee Wolfe, Jacky Goldman, Fatima Galarraga, Shonali Gupta, Megan Smyser, Kathleen Sidell, Christy Knettel, Nicole Elmgart, Terri Ruyter, Angie O'Reilly, Sabrina Raza-Wiese

- I. **Meeting Called to Order at 5:00 pm**
- II. **Approval of June Minutes**

- Motion to approve June minutes carries.

### **III. Principal's Report (Terri Ruyter)**

- Discussion re: Book Fair possibility - Barnes and Noble will give a portion of the proceeds to PS/IS 276 from book sales during a certain period of time (in store in Tribeca and online)
- This Thursday meeting Terri will hold a Zoom meeting for parents of students with IEPs.
- Terri will share updates on the school safety protocol during the General PTA Meeting on Friday morning.
  - The school ventilation is at 100% in and out. There is no need for a MERV 13 filter. There is enough PPE throughout the school, Purell stations in the hallways, social distancing signs, many masks, and digital thermometers for every hybrid program family (youngest student will be given thermometer).
- Technology updates:
  - The school continues to work on setting up technology for every family.
  - If you bring a DOE iPad to school, you will have automatic internet access to the Wifi. If you bring your own laptop to school, the DOE is working on setting up guest access to grant Wifi access for the hybrid program students when they are in school.
  - PS/IS 276 has received a grant from a generous community donor for \$50,000. Terri is using this money to buy more computers for the school.
  - The school is still waiting on the grant from the spring in connection with Gale Brewer for additional computers.
- Remote School updates:
  - Most students are attending the Zoom sessions.
  - Some children continue to leave the school because the families have moved out of the city.
  - Teachers are not to train POD teachers or tutors. Teachers are to be used to assist students.
  - Almost 30% of our students are fully remote for the school year. Additional families have said they would like to go fully remote but have not filled out the survey yet.
- Census - Please fill out the census so that our school can have accurate funding and representation.

### **IV. President's Report (Melinda Orlie-Katsiris and Tammy Meltzer)**

- Discussion re: EB positions, vacancies, elections. No additional information yet on the election process. We are all paused into position until October, with the exception of Nikki Aaronson who has left the school. Thank you to all EB board members for continuing in their post for now. We will be in need of volunteers for the fundraising committee, treasurer, and class parent liaison. Amy Mofsenson volunteered to move into the co-secretary position to replace Nikki Aaronson.
- Membership Toolkit - About 250 families have logged in to Membership Toolkit so far. About another 300 need to log back in and update their information.
- Online Blue cards - So far, there have been 344 responses to the online blue card.

- Discussion re: time of PTA General Meeting this Friday and discussion of by laws as to changing of days/times of meetings. GM Meeting on Friday set for 3 pm this Friday. Zoom meeting link will be on the school webpage calendar and the passcode will be sent via eNews for added security. Open floor on Friday to ask for possible fundraising and community building ideas.
- Teacher and Staff lunch on Wednesday. Thank you Tammy for coordinating!

**V. Treasurer's Report (Shonali Gupta) - (See Treasurer's report for more information)**

- Overview of the income and expenses over the summer.
- Discussion re: changes in programming and categories of funding based on hybrid/remote school structure this year.

**V. New Business**

- P-EBTs fundraising opportunity - As part of the federal government assistance program, New York is sending a card to all families with children who attended a NYC public school this spring during the pandemic. The card has \$420 that is for the breakfast and lunch money during the pandemic that was not served to students. Discussion re: asking families who are food secure at PS/IS 276 to use the card and then to send the school a check donation. During the general PTA meeting we will share what the P-EBT card is, how to use it, who to contact if you didn't receive a card and how to donate the money to the school if you are willing.
- Discussion re: Run for Knowledge and how to possibly hold the even this year. Maybe outside or maybe virtually?
- Discussion re: possible Halloween parade or some sort of social distancing event
- Discussion re: School photos and possibility of holding outdoor photo sessions this year.
- Volunteer Update - sign ups are on Membership toolkit. Volunteers wanted for school photo day, yearbook, Run for Knowledge, fundraising, etc.
- Grade parents - Will have grade parents this year rather than individual classes. Sign up on Membership toolkit.
- Discussion re: eNews - scale back, every 2nd week, or remain weekly? Decided to start with every two weeks but will adjust as necessary during the year.

**VIII. Questions/Comments/Additional Items**

- No word yet on the DOT response to the PS/IS 276 request for the Downtown Connection bus stop in front of the school.

**IX. Adjournment at 6:09 pm**