

**PS 166 THE RICHARD RODGERS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS & TECHNOLOGY**  
132 WEST 89<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10024  
PS166.ORG

**PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

January 17, 2019  
6:00PM in the Auditorium

**APPROVED by unanimously at February 14, 2019 meeting**

**I. Call to Order**

Co-President Ms. Gelinis called the meeting to order at 6:08pm.  
Quorum was established.

**II. Approval of the Minutes**

A MOTION to approve the minutes from the general membership meeting held on December 13, 2018 meetings was made by Ms. Gelinis. The MOTION was seconded by Mr. Josh Weinberger.  
The minutes were passed unanimously.

**III. Speakers**

a. Principal's Corner

Principal discussed Amplify Science program, a hands-on curriculum. Staff development has been provided since we are part of a pilot in the 4th grade. 3rd and 5th grade will begin soon.

b. Guest Speakers: PS 166 Social Worker Ms. Lederle and Guidance Counselor Ms. Macdonald

Ms. Lederle and Ms. Macdonald discussed the social emotional program at the school. Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) is supported by CASEL.org. The five competencies were discussed. At school this is supported by the RULER (Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing, Regulating Emotions) program. The anchors of the RULER program include the Charter, Mood Meter, Meta-Moment, and Blueprint. This year Responsive Classrooms is being implemented through the morning meetings in the classroom. The importance of fostering SEL at home was emphasized, particularly creating a Family Charter, using the Mood Meter to discuss feelings, and using the Meta-Moment and Blueprint at home. A number of quick and effective regulation strategies were discussed such as diaphragmatic breathing. The presentation will be included in the 1/18/19 newsletter.

Q&A:

When are the students actually doing this stuff, if something comes up at recess are the recess monitors doing it? Try to do it as close to the incident as possible, more in classroom than at recess. Often it is done verbal. The 'Blue Book' is followed when determining discipline.

Is Recreate and the recess monitors trained in this? At recess there is always someone. Not sure about Recreate

How is staffed trained? Ongoing staff development.

How do we measure outcomes of the use of these programs? OORS tracks it. We can share the OORS Summary Data by Code at the next PTA meeting. We could survey the classrooms to see how often these tools are used.

How much are you in the classroom modeling these things to teachers and students? In the classrooms a lot, especially in the newer teachers' classrooms. Small groups, classroom, and large groups.

All TAs will be trained on this if not already.

#### **IV. Standing Reports and Updates**

a. Financial

Mr. Alvarez and Ms. Dugan thanked everyone for the the number of gifts we received at the end of the year. We also received a number of company matches.

Our family giving goal is for \$525,000, we are at \$410,000.

Recently the PTA has paid for things such as 4th grade library books, 3rd -5th grade state test prep books, 4th grade after school test prep, enhancements to field trips eg 1st grade Intrepid, residencies such as opera, gardening, chess, and of course teaching assistants

b. Committees:

i. Grants-

Ms. Polimeri reported that we will be implementing the technology grant soon we are meeting with SCA to begin planning. We tried to receive money through the participatory budget for bathrooms but that is a school facility issue, Auditorium A/C but it was too expensive,. And sound proofing cafeteria but it was too small. We will apply for a capital grant for A/C. Recent library grant should be implement this summer. Garden grant of \$2000 received to fix broken bins. Citizens united grant received for composting bins in classrooms. A Programing grant of \$5,000 was received for the Met Opera program.

ii. Security-

An update on the CAASS was given by Ms. Roosevelt Colmer. Parent ID cards are being created, this will replace the system of giving a photo ID. This will streamline who comes into building and make safety agents job easier. We have begun taking pictures and will continue to do so at pickup or drop off. Visitor Pass Plus will be used for other visitor. A new security desk is coming to support the system.

iii. Green-

Mr. Weinberger reported that 125 pounds per week collected at compost. Coat drive was successful. Family Fun fitness coming up in May.

**V. Event Updates**

a. Auction

Ms. Volkmar reported that coming up at American Cut. Online auction leads up to event. There is a silent auction night of. Teacher outings the number one item.

b. Dance Party

Ms. Oblad reported that the dance party is coming up. \$5 suggested donation. There will be a dance teacher present with dancers to assist.

**VI. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Carl D. Cambria, Recording Secretary