

**PS24 PA Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Meeting Called to Order: 7:30 by L. Moukas**

- **Mr. Schwartz**
  - **SLT meeting was held today**
    - Parent Communication is a top issue. Discussion on best way to communicate with parents. Parents want more email. We are moving towards this, but it will take time. For now, administration will add a notice on website of items that are communicated through robo calls.
    - Parents questioning why this takes so long. PS24 has not had consistent leadership which is the reason we are still working through a lot of the basics.
  - **Councilman Cohen – Arts Grant**
    - Musical production with a set number of children (55)– one for older kids, one for younger kids, rehearsals are on Saturday
    - Broadway show trip for some children with behind the scenes access
    - Performance at our school – You’re a good man Charlie Brown.
  - **Music in Education – VIP invites to two performances**
  - **Feedback on coffee with the principal was good and new procedures are in place based on parent suggestions**
    - Weekly administration communication was instilled by posting updates to website
    - Improved teacher communication supervised by Ms Amster and teachers are helping each other by sharing communication strategy.
    - Parent Q – Will Policy Changes be communicated through weekly email and/or posting on website (yes)
    - Parent Q – Will Georgia math info be included on the website (yes but not yet). Curriculum will be included, work sheets, links to the program, etc. This is all coming.
    - Parent Q – How does Georgia compare to other math programs? Georgia is a more condensed approach. It combines several of the outside programs and includes the best part of all of them.
    - Parent Q – TA Update? What is the solution for this year? Still working on this. There are Parents willing to do this. Not likely to let parents fill in as TAs because of issues like student rights and privacy.
    - Parent Q – are there PA funds to cover this? The PA could gift the money.
    - Parent Q – K kids upstairs. Kids are very nervous to go to bathroom with older kids, there have been incidents, parents are very concerned. Ms Amster said there is an aide that can be called and she will bring kids to the bathroom.
- **Sandy Mislow**
  - Presentation – Is School Supposed to be This Hard?
  - Sandy is local, a Special Ed expert and had kids go through PS24. She now has a consulting business that helps parents navigate the special Ed world. Sandy also helps teachers. Parents can contact Sandy Mislow and she will be at the parents helping parents meeting.
  - Discussion on developmental milestones and red flags
  - Steps to take once you identify a problem – Take a deep breath, remind yourself it’s no one’s fault, Let your child know you’re going to help, set up a meeting with the teacher.
  - Tips for meeting with teacher – prepare in advance, think about your concerns, gather concrete examples, prepare any documents you want to share and any examples. Be on time, Be clear, stay calm, share helpful info, shift to solutions, make a follow up plan, show appreciation.
  - After the meeting maintain frequent communication and document everything. If problems persist, set another meeting.
  - Discussion on options for testing or not testing

- Informal support (if not testing)– quiet areas, prioritized seating, frequent eye contact, non-verbal cues, etc
- Testing options include doing this through a Public vs Private system
- Contact info: [sandy@sandymislow.com](mailto:sandy@sandymislow.com)
  
- **Minutes**
  - Approval of minutes – Motion to approve M. Montoya-Goldman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Sherman
  
- **Financials – N Levinson**
  - Candy-Gift Sale did very well
  - Bake Sale at Back to School
  - Need Boo Bash Volunteers
  - Yearbook money line item is from last year
  - Money spent is detailed in the reports
  
- **Other**
  - Pamela will send an email to Class Reps with all Boo Bash info that should be sent to class parents
  - Sounding Board – Andre Trainor is art editor, need more volunteers for writing articles, parents should take pics.
  - CEC Meeting at PS24 held in the auditorium at 6:30 to hear about district issues
    - Overcrowding, capacity
    - We can bring up issues with TAs, staff shortage
  - D Shilue Parent Volunteers met and established goals and hopes to submit a proposal at the next SLT
    - Parent Volunteers in Lunchroom, Recess, hallways, making copies, morning times to walk kids to classroom
    - Requirements to be a parent volunteer - There are some ideas floating around about the specific things parent would need to qualify
    - Start small to get this moving. The process has started.
    - Looking for 6 to 14 volunteers per lunch period.
    - Suggestion to advertise the opportunity to more parents who did not attend PA meeting when this was discussed.
  - Boo Bash – NEED VOLUNTEERS, set up during the day is the biggest place where we need help
  - Coffee with Principal Nov 17<sup>th</sup>.
  
- **Meeting Adjourned: 8:55**