

Minutes

PS/MS 114Q PTA Meeting

November 20, 2019 - Meeting called to order at 7:10 by Jodi Heywood, seconded by Rachel Gallagher.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Jodi Heywood motioned to accept the minutes from last month's meeting.

PTA Presidents - Jodi Heywood and Danielle Pomerantz

- Share the posts on Facebook regarding the Turkey Trot and continue to make pledges. There will be refreshments served on the day of the Trot. If it rains, the trot will be cancelled. On Saturday a decision will be made. Presidents will speak with Mrs. Welsome about a smaller event that can take its place. Students that raised \$50 or more - hats were sent home.
- Michele Kourbage is running the book fair. She will post a schedule. Volunteers are needed for set up, break down and for the day of the fair.
- Holiday Boutique is being run by Rachel Galligher on 12/18 and 12/19. Volunteers are needed and should sign up following the link that will be on the school website.
- Giving Thanks Tree - Students wrote on leaves and a display will be hanging in the hallway on the first floor.
- Craft Night - 12/10 from 7p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Students will decorate snowflakes and snow globes, which will then be used to decorate the hall. They will be served chocolate milk and cookies.
- Amazon Smile - Enroll in this program for free and the school gets cash when purchases are made. **Do not make purchases through the APP. The purchase must go through Amazon.com.
- Stop and Shop - Enroll in the program and the school gets money when purchases are made.
- The Tellone and the Naccarada families are building flower boxes. They will be put on the 134th side of the building. Daffodils are being donated to the school.
- Rachel Gallagher will call and get information about the coupon book fundraiser. There is an app and both Long Island and city coupons are combined in one online book.

Treasurers' Report - Jackie Cozza and Michelle Kourbage

- PTA dues collected - \$12,585
- GO store profit - \$1,586

Principal's Report - Elizabeth Welsome

- Classes are continuing with Teachers' College Reading and Writing. Next year Foundations will be phased out and Teacher's College Phonics will be used. The new phonics program starts with some larger words and uses strategies such as "catching sounds" in the younger grades and then begins the conventions of spelling. Teachers are loving it and the students are excited.

- Teacher observations have begun. They are unannounced and last at least fifteen minutes.
- Elevate Education - study skills workshops for middle school students. The school pays for this each year. Next session - note taking seminar.
- Saturday School Program - January until the state exams. \$150 for ten, two hour Saturday classes. An email was sent to the teachers in order to see who would be interested in teaching the program. *A parent asked for information about how the classes are arranged. Mrs. Welsome explained that it depends on how many students sign up. Once all are registered a decision will be made.* NY Ready books will be used. A check for these books is written to the PTA and then the PTA gives the money to Mrs. Welsome. A letter is ready to be sent home as soon as the number of teachers available is determined.
- Parent Teacher Conferences - 12/5 from 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. and 4:40 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Parents will be able to sign up on the school website beginning Monday.
- WAVES - 1st drawing of ticket. One winner per grade.
- Beautiful Me - 1st session ends this week.
- Kindness Announcements - each morning students are recognized for their acts of kindness. Marina D'Aniello had an idea to make a sign for the students to have their picture taken when they are found to be kind. Mrs. Gersh took the idea and made a beautiful sign which is hanging in the hallway outside of the main office.
- Holiday Concert
day time shows - 12/17, 12/18 9:00 a.m.
evening show 12/19 7:00 p.m.
- Operation Gratitude - dress down in red, white and blue, pay \$1. Honor Society is putting together packages for the troops to be sent to Afghanistan. The money raised helps cover the cost of shipping the care packages.
- There is a food drive until 11/22 being run by the after school program. Donations are being accepted.
- Ridgewood Banking - If anyone is interested see Kathy Meade.
- Holiday Parties - 12/20
PreK thru 5 - parents are invited, Middle School - no parents
- Holiday Photo Cards - Send them in and they will be on display outside of the main office.
- Picture Retake - 1/8
- Middle School and High School applications are due - 12/2
- Morning Arrival - Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Students can not come earlier. There is no staff available at that time and will be a safety issue. (Exceptions are made for students in Living Environment and Band - These students may arrive early on designated days.) Most preferred arrival time is 7:45 a.m.

- Outdoor Lunch - The students are outside as much as possible. Parents called recently because students were outside and it began to mist. The school staff tries to get the students into the building when the weather changes and they are already outside. Unless it's below 32 degrees this winter, students will be outside.

Mrs. Welsome then wished everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving and said that she would remain to answer any questions.

Raffle - won by Michelle Kourbage (Congratulations)

Jennifer McKinnen-Doyle motioned to close the meeting, seconded by Rachel Gallagher.