

MINUTES

PS/MS 114Q

October 24, 2019 | Meeting called to order by Jodi Heywood, seconded by Michelle Kourbage

Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge was said at 7:10pm

Next PTA meeting

Nov 20 @ 7pm, will be the last one of the year. No PTA meeting in Dec due to the holiday.

Past Activities

Movie Night was a success and the fall festival was an amazing night. Still collecting PTA dues, if paid by 10/30 you will be entered into a raffle to win a night at Kalahari.

Treasurers Report

Treasurers Jackie Cozza & Michelle Kourbage report that they are learning Quickbooks and are in the process of transferring everything over to record the profits & losses.

Upcoming Events

- 2nd day of Picture Day is tomorrow, dress down for individual pictures
- Bake Sale will be 10/30, need baked goods and volunteers to help run the sale
- Turkey Trot will be 11/24, one of the biggest fundraisers of the year. Will be held at Beach Channel School track. Using 99 Pledges for the fundraising. Will be a Sunday morning family fitness event. Warm up with Chris & Sarah from Crom Fitness, Zumba with Vanessa, will be about a 2 hour event. Will be raising money to purchase ipads for the classrooms and to fund a hydroponics program, which is a program that uses water to grow plants.
- Holiday Boutique is back! Will be 12/18 & 12/19, will need volunteers to help set up and break down.
- Book Fair will be 12/4, 12/5, & 12/6. Danielle, Lori & Michelle Kourbage will be the co-chairs for this.
- Spring Gala will be at the Silver Gull on May 15, 2020 from 7-11 pm
- Will be reaching out to volunteers who filled out the volunteer survey for these events, and any volunteers who didn't fill out the survey can still volunteer for events.
- Holiday craft night/decorating event will be 12/3, still working on the details, will advise at later date

Principal's Report

Principal Welsome

Updates with curriculum, instruction, social/emotional development

- Thanks to generosity of PTA we have the Teachers College program up and running. We have had 4 days of TC coaches in the building working with the teachers in what they are calling "lab sites". 1 class per grade k-5 as a lab site.

- Received \$10,000 in books by Teachers College for being a part of their research study
- “Algebra For All” professional development happening for the 5 teachers who’ve been trained in the program and “Amplified Science” professional development for Ms. Recco and Mr. Pasquerelli
- Parents are struggling with helping their children with math, so we’re working with the teachers to maybe do a math workshop.
- “College Access for All” initiative kickoff assembly was 2 weeks ago, first module with 7th grade was today. This is in an effort to raise college awareness for the middle school.
- “Elevate Education” will start next Wed for the 6th graders, will teach study skills that are important for success in life. For example, note taking, close reading, memory mnemonics, & time management.
- Middle school writing contest through the VFW in Breezy. Only 4 middle schoolers submitted an essay.
- “Beautiful Me” will be starting for 5th grade girls, starting in Nov
- Oct was anti-bullying month but we wanted to make the month also about promoting kindness, inclusivity, acceptance and tolerance. Putting W.A.V.E.S. in effect. (Working together, Accepting differences, Validating one another, Empathizing, Staying flexible) Each week was a different focus, kids received shout outs during the morning announcements to anybody who was found to be utilizing WAVES. First week is challenging each other to make friends, 2nd week is standing up for one another, 3rd week is inclusion week and 4th week is having conversations about problem solving.
- Oct Dress For a Cause raised \$715 for the PS/MS 114 “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer” team.
- Nov 22nd will be the next Dress For a Cause, wear red, white & blue and will be raising money for “Operation Gratitude”
- All Dress For Cause days are voted on by the School Leadership Team
- Science State Test scores: in 4th grade 98% scored level 3 or 4, in 8th grade 78% scored level 3 or 4
- There have been Middle School and High School information sessions. You can email guidance counselor Ms. Weiss at cweiss8@schools.nyc.gov for info
- Middle School open house was on Monday. 12/2 is the deadline to apply for middle school.
- Safety Drills are under way. We have had 2 lockdown drills and 1 evacuation drill
- Crazy 8’s is under way with 1st & 2nd graders
- 5th Grade Writers Club started today
- Next week will be the K-5 Halloween Parade, weather permitting at 9 am. K-5 will have classroom parties.
- A question was asked regarding how much room we have for middle school as far as class size goes. We have room for two 6th grade classes. The cap for 6th grade is 33 students. If we wanted to have more classrooms, “they” look at the space and determine. Our middle school wing has 5 classrooms in total right now. One option for growth is that we could request that trailers be put up but unsure as to whether that could be done. Another question was asked regarding the new building across the street, would we be able to use any of their space? We don’t know at this time. They are projected to open Sept 2020.

Assistant Principal’s Report

Assistant Principal Folchetti

- Special Education SIT (School Implementation Team) meets on a monthly basis comprised of special ed teachers from various grades, the school psychologist, the social worker, the SETSS teacher, the IEP teacher and the AP herself. Purpose is to look at the special ed program to look at how far we’ve come and how far we need to go. Last year we focused a lot on training the staff on IEP development, understanding and explaining the IEP process to parents. This year we want to focus on TIER 1 interventions, meaning what resources do we have for our teachers to work with struggling students

before they get into the evaluation process or come up on our radar. One way is by professional development and also by working together to build resources like binders where teachers can go into the library if they need certain behavior charts. Working on a binder for behavior and a binder for academics.

- Sensory Needs students: how can we incorporate sensory integration into the classrooms without students receiving PT or OT. SIT to put out a Donors Choose page to raise funds for this, hasn't been published yet. Would be nice to have a "sensory cart" on each floor or a "sensory room". This is still in the planning stage but we're very excited about it.
- Would like to start having meetings for parents about issues that are important to them. Going to be sending out a survey to see what would be a good time for parents to be able to attend workshops like this and topics of interest.

Committee Reports

- Daffodil Project – Lori Tellone applied over the summer for this project where the city gives bulbs to beautify the neighborhood. We were approved for 50 daffodil bulbs to be planted around the school. Two companies owned by parents from our school (Naccorato Contracting and Brooklyn Windows & Doors) are donating labor and materials to build flower boxes. The flower boxes will be all along B134th St as well as in front of the school. Maybe we can do a gardening club in the future? The idea is to have seasonal plants to make the school look beautiful throughout the year. Should be in the works about 2 weeks from now.

Motion to adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:42pm and was seconded by Brooke Pompeo