



Ps/Is 229

## Parent-Teacher Association

Date, Time, and Location: June 20th, 2023 6:00 -7:05pm. Zoom

Meeting called to order by Co-Presidents Jennifer Jansen & Jaime Palazzi at 6:00 pm.

Attendance: A quorum was reached.

Minutes: The minutes of the 05/16/23 meeting were read and approved by Vanessa Belcastro)

Officers' Reports given by Jennifer Jansen and Jaime Palazzi

Treasurers Reports The budget was read and accepted. Report attached.

### **Old Business was given by Co-President Jennifer Jansen**

1. Our annual Brooklyn Cyclones baseball fundraiser is currently going on. It is Nickelodeon's Paw Patrol Day and the characters will be there. Tickets are \$20 each plus fees. The link to order those tickets has been emailed out, if anyone would like to attend, please email us and we will resend you the Link.
2. June 12 th was Kindergarten Field Day, the kids had a lot of fun and you can see the pictures on the PS229 Instagram page.
3. On June 13 th , caps, gowns and graduation tickets were handed out to 8 th grade graduates.
4. June 14 th we held a staff appreciation lunch in the teachers lounge. We had sandwiches and salads delivered from Steve's and all staff were all able to come down and grab lunch.

2022-2023  
Executive Board  
Officers

Co-Presidents:  
Jaime Palazzi  
Jennifer Jansen

Treasurer:  
Stephanie Stephan

Secretary:  
Maria Makoyemko

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#### Administration

William Kirk  
Principal

Assistant Principals:  
Christopher Corbett  
Kathleen Mai  
Angelo Tizabi

5. June 16<sup>th</sup> was our 5<sup>th</sup> grade celebration in the school yard. We had a dj come in and we had McDonald's, pretzels and popcorn. Everyone had such a great time and we were so happy to be able to do this for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders. They had plenty of time to hang out with friends, dance and eat before it started to thunder and we had to cut it short by about a half hour.

6. June 20<sup>th</sup> was field day for 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> graders and tomorrow will be field day for 6<sup>th</sup>– 8<sup>th</sup> . Today was also the Pre-K Stepping Up ceremony and everyone looked so cute! Wednesday will be the Kindergarten Stepping Up Ceremony.

7. Over the last few weeks, we had our budget committee meet to work on next years budget which we sent out today for everyone to look at. Thank you to Colleen Lamonte for joining me and Jaime on the committee.

8. At the end of every school year, we have to hold an internal audit that consists of three parents coming into our office to go over receipts and make sure all of our paperwork is there and properly filled out and signed. We passed with flying colors, and we would like to thank Michael Lacombe, Cecilia Lin, and Cynthia Wong for taking the time to volunteer to help us out.

### **New Business was given by Co-president Jaime Palazzi**

1. June 22<sup>nd</sup> is the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation, and we are all very excited! The ceremonies will take place at Dyker Golf Course at 9:30 and 11:30. Please pay attention to the following information:

- a. All graduating 8<sup>th</sup> graders should go directly to Dyker at their scheduled session time, not school.
- b. Please make sure your child is there a half hour before their ceremony start time, so if it's 9:30 be there at 9, if its at 11:30 be there at 11.
- c. There will be light refreshments served after each session.
- d. We just found out that there are other events going on at the same time as the graduations. Please allow enough time to get there and find a spot so your child is not late.
- e. Guests will go directly into the venue; students will go to a different area to wait. We will be there to help everyone.

f. Please make sure you have your tickets!

g. Again, we are not handing out extra tickets, but your child can ask his or her friends if they have an extra ticket available as long as it's for the same time session. We will not accept 11:30 tickets for a 9:30 session and vice versa.

h. Due to past experience, I have to say this: please do not bring someone that does not have a ticket thinking we will let them in.

2. Friday the 23 rd will be the 8 th grade trip to Great Adventure.

3. Monday, June 26 th will be our annual 8 th grade breakfast hosted by the PTA. It's held in the cafeteria and the kids will also be given their yearbooks and a chance to have their friends sign it.

4. Tuesday June 27 th will be the last day of school!!

5. Now on to some information for next year: 7 th grade parents, when school starts up in September, you will be receiving a letter regarding senior dues which is \$100 and will be due sometime in October. That money covers the cap and gown, yearbook, diploma case, a t-shirt, pin, keychain, hat, and the link for the graduation video. You will also get a letter for the prom which will be due in January and is \$50.

6. We are very excited to announce that our school carnival will be back! Letters will go out when school starts.

7. Over the summer, we will meet, as we always do, to discuss the upcoming school year and what changes need to be made. There were times this year that we were literally begging for volunteers. If we have the same issue this year, we will simply not be able to do all of the things that we have been doing, so please keep that in mind for next year.

8. If you have an issue with administration or with the PTA, the appropriate thing to do is either call the school or email someone. Please do not leave rude comments on our fb page, specifically under pictures of children having a good time and celebrating. This isn't the first time it has happened, but we want to make sure it is the last.

9. On to the two last pieces of business we need to finish up. First, we need to

amend these two bylaws. The first change does not affect you, it is simply for the executive board but it has to be amended. The second amendment is regarding PTA meetings. As you know, with the vaccine mandate lifted, PTA's are going back to in person meetings. With the last few winters being what they were, we want to make sure that everyone stays safe. Our options are fully in person or we break it up. The amendments are as follows: (see attached – approved by Vanessa Belcastro and seconded by Kathy Natal)

### *Amendments*

*As a PTA, we are allowed to amend some of our bylaws, but the changes cannot contradict any of the Chancellors Regulations. Our bylaws need to be recertified every three years. We need to make the following amendments:*

#### *What It Looks Like Now*

##### *Article V, Section B: Executive Board Meetings*

*The executive board shall meet monthly on the First Monday of every month at 7pm unless such date falls on a legal or religious holiday, in which case the meeting shall be held on the following or previous Monday. Meetings will be conducted virtually.*

#### *What It Will Be Amended To*

##### *Meetings*

*The executive board shall meet monthly on the First Monday of every month at 9am, unless such date falls on a legal or religious holiday, in which case the meeting shall be held on the following or previous Monday. Meetings will be conducted in person.*

#### *What It Looks Like Now*

##### *Article VI, Section A, Subsection a: General Membership Meetings*

*a. All general membership meetings must be held virtually.*

***What It Will Be Amended To***

***General Membership Meetings:***

***a. All general membership meetings will be held in person during the months of September, October, March, April, May, and June. All general membership meetings will be held virtually during the months of November, December, January, and February.***

10. The budget for next year was sent, there are only a few changes, one of them being the carnival. Does everyone approve? (approved by Maria Mancino and seconded by Robert Flaster)

**Important Dates**

- June 21st is the Kindergarten stepping up ceremony
- June 22nd is 8 th grade graduation
- June 26th is the 8 th grade breakfast
- June 27 h is the last day of school
- September 7th is the first day of the 2023-2024 school year!

## **Principals report was given by Mr. Kirk**

### **Registration, enrollment and staffing update**

Our pupil accounting secretary and office staff have been busily registering students coming into our Pre-K and kindergarten classes for September 2023.

- We began this school year with a total enrollment of 1,149 students. We are currently at 1,170. The initial projection for next year was 1,093 and that is what we initially get budgeted for.
- Although we are currently looking at having one less special education class for 2023-24, we will be fully staffed. Some retirements have more or less balanced with our staff returning after childcare, etc.

### **Summer Rising 2023 update**

- Our Summer Rising site, along with the NIA will be at PS 163, located at 109 Bay 14" Street.
- Enrollment for any additional open seats as follows:  
Stage 1 (existing applicants)  
Stage 2 (any available seats following Stage 1)

### **Dual Language (Mandarin) Program**

- We are planning and preparing for a dual language Mandarin/ English class in kindergarten for September 2023. We hope to be able to start in grade 6 the following fall.
- This two-way model will be taught 50% of the time in English and 50% in Mandarin, allowing ENL students to become proficient in English and already English-proficient students to master Mandarin.
- Research shows that dual language students perform at or above grade level in reading and math by 6th to 7th grade, if not sooner.
- UPDATE: After an interview and demo lesson, we are in the process of hiring our bilingual teacher.

## **Digital Media and Journalism Program**

- We will begin introducing accelerated learning and enrichment opportunities to our middle school students through Digital Media & Journalism in the Fall of 2023.
- The plan is to utilize PBS News Hour's StoryMaker curriculum, which includes projects, tutorials, and lessons connected to media production, digital journalism, and public broadcasting.
- UPDATE: Assistant Principal Cuthill has been accepted into PBS News Hour's 4-day training at their headquarters in July

## **Recent Events that PS/IS Students Participated In**

- Ms. Petrella's Gardening Enrichment Group along with class 202 have been planting a significant amount of flowers around the building exterior. Thank you to the NIA and Mr. Cuthill for generously helping out with materials.
- Mr. Lovell escorted a team of 4 students to compete in D. 20's Science Olympiad on May 24th at I.S. 227.
- Ms. Biesty took a team of 4 students to compete in D. 20's Math Olympiad on June 2nd at P.S./I.S. 30.
- Ms. Gili escorted five of our students to participate in District 20's inaugural Project Soapbox (as part of Civics For All) event on June 7th at P.S. 939.

## **Stepping up, Moving Up, and Graduation**

- Pre-K Stepping Up will take place today, June 20th
- Kindergarten Moving Up will take place on Wednesday, June 21st
- Grade 8 Graduation will take place at Dyker Golf Course on Thursday, June 22nd.

## **AP Cuthill, AP Mui, and AP Tiplaldi**

- Any additional items of note

THANK YOU to all of our families and our staff for another successful year at PS/IS 229K!!!

We will see everyone on Thursday, September 7th!!!

**Questions were answered.  
Students of the month were announced.**

**Meeting Adjourned 7:05pm. Mariia Maksymenko, Secretary**

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