

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

PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

January 18, 2018
6:00PM in the Auditorium

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AT THE FEBRUARY 15, 2018 MEETING

I. Call to Order

Co-President Nina Roosevelt-Collmer called the meeting to order at 6:10pm. Quorum was established.

II. Approval of Minutes

A MOTION to approve the minutes of the general membership meeting held on December 14, 2017 was made by Nina Roosevelt-Collmer. Josh Weinberger seconded the MOTION. The minutes were passed unanimously.

III. Guidance Counselor, Michelle MacDonald – Is it Rude? Is it Mean? Is it Bullying?

Ms. MacDonald discussed the Respect for All Program coming up in February focusing on kindness. She then presented materials and information regarding how to recognize/categorize different types of behavior – rude, mean and bullying – to better understand them and discuss them with your children. A brief discussion ensued regarding how to recognize warning signs of bullying. Ms. MacDonald also pointed out that students shouldn't be labeled as it sends a potentially bad message as well as support and intervention the school implements inside and outside the classrooms.

IV. Standing Reports and Updates

a. President's Reports

Ms. Roosevelt-Collmer informed parents/guardians that meetings for each grade are coming soon to give parents a chance to discuss any issues/questions they may have as well as what their priorities for the school are.

b. Financial

We have received approximately \$400,000 toward our \$575,000 family giving goal. We are only at 36% school participation this year, which is lower than last year at this time. The following percent of each grade has donated to date: Kindergarten 46%, First Grade 36%, Second Grade 40%, Third Grade 42%, Fourth Grade 21% and Fifth Grade 23%.

c. Grants

Rachel Polimeni provided an overview of the upcoming work in the library as a result of approximately \$560,000 in grants received from local politicians. Ms. Polimeni indicated she will be applying for technology grants to overhaul the technology lab, purchase Promethean Boards and purchase new computers for the classrooms. A brief discussion ensued regarding ideas for other grants including residencies.

d. SLT

Ms. Roosevelt-Collmer provided an update on SLT's evaluation of the CEP goals indicating the mid year check in happening soon.

e. CEC/President's Council

Kerri Keiger provided an overview of events occurring in the northern end of the district as well as changes to the middle school application process. The DOE is moving to a blind ranking system as part of Chancellor Farina's Equity for All Campaign. The CEC is working with middle schools to determine new metrics but what effect those will have is unknown. Ms. Keiger indicated the next CEC middle school committee meeting is January 30, 2018.

f. Committees

i. Green/Wellness

Josh Weinberger provided an update on the committee's current projects and upcoming meeting dates.

ii. Gardening

Mr. Weinberger indicated the committee is gearing up for planting season and the potential for our school to become a Monarch Butterfly station.

V. Events - Updates

Daria Kim provided information regarding the first annual Movie Night on Friday, February 2, 2018. A request for volunteers was made.

VI. Principal's Corner

Ms. Mastriano spoke briefly about mock testing for third through fifth graders. Parent workshops for ELA and Math are happening in the coming months to present information regarding tests to keep parents/guardians informed of what's being worked on in the classrooms.

VII. New Business

a. Auction

Members of the committee indicated the auction site (auction.ps166.org) is live and accepting donations. A request for volunteers was made as well as a call for donations and an auctioneer.

b. Broadway Sings

The fundraiser will occur in late April. Parents/guardians can contact Marc Lovci if they would like to be involved.

VIII. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Volkmar, Recording Secretary