

**PS 166 THE RICHARD RODGERS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS & TECHNOLOGY**  
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PS166.ORG

**PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

October 18, 2018  
8:30AM in the Cafeteria

**APPROVED by unanimous at November 30, 2018 meeting**

**I. Call to Order**

Co-President Moira Jaffe-Solomon called the meeting to order at 8:31am.  
Quorum was established.

**II. Approval of the Minutes**

A MOTION to approve the minutes from the general membership meetings held on June 14 and September 17, 2018 meetings was made by Mr. Solomon. The MOTION was seconded by Ms. Scobie. The minutes were passed unanimously.

**III. Standing Reports and Updates**

a. Principal

Principal Mastriano and Interim Acting Assistant Principal Anav Cohen discussed revamping the TA program to support TAs becoming a teacher. This would also make it easier for TAs to cover a teacher on leave. They discussed the creation of the TA Support position. The position would be an out of classroom position. By having one dedicated out-of-classroom TA it will allow the other TAs to focus on in-classroom activities. They also discussed building a new relationship with Hunter to support TAs and student teachers.

b. Co-Presidents

Ms. Solomon and Ms. Gelinas discussed the financial impact of TA Support Role. They reported it would cost about \$25,000 to \$30,000. They also discussed that approval of this new support role will require PTA approval. A vote is scheduled to take place at the next PTA General Membership meeting, November 15, 2018.

Mr. Alvarez updated the group on fundraising goals. Library, TAs, lice checks, residencies, etc. are paid by PTA Budget. Most of the PTA budget comes from Family Giving, Fall Fest, Auction, matching gifts, and Amazon. Kindergarten and First grade have highest rate of participation and then it goes down per grade. The Board will send out a link to the Amazon donation. There will be a push for 100% participation later in the school year.

Parent Coordinator Deborah Markewich explained there is no Science Cluster teacher. Instead a new updated Science curriculum is being taught in

each classroom by classroom teachers. A staff developer in Science is being recruited.

Communication Secretary Laura Beech explained goal of sending less but more timely and prioritized communications. Parents were encouraged to send any feedback or ideas they have on communications.

c. SLT

Jenn Jin explained role of SLT. The main focus is to write the CEP.

d. CEC3/President's Council

Kim Watkins explained her role on CEC3 and President's Council. She also discussed the new middle school admissions, nurse shortage in district, lack of diversity in G&T, role of PEP, and potential changes to specialized HS exam.

e. Committees

i. Inclusion

Natasha Cipolli reported there may be a new name for the committee to better align with School/DOE. This committee is specifically for parents of students who have allergies, other medical/physical needs, and/or special education needs. The focus is on helping school events be more 'inclusive'. Meetings are held the last Thursday of the month. Proper labeling of food was also discussed.

ii. Green and Wellness

Josh Weinberger and Eleanor Worth discussed curbside pickup and , textile recycling. As an eco-school we are trying make sure everything school does has a mindfulness of environmentalism. As an eco-school we strive for zero waste, compost during day, and at all events. 80% of stuff in cafeteria gets composted.

Meetings are held every Tuesday.

Volunteers welcomed to come into lunch room to assist. Also discussed was the goal to eliminate the sale of bottled waters for fall fest and all future events.

#### **IV. Event Updates**

a. Fall Fest

- i. Beth O'Neill gave update on sales and final plans for Fall Fest on 10/20/2018. Volunteers slots almost filled. First grade won the extra recess competition.

#### **V. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35am.

Respectfully submitted,

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Carl D. Cambria, Recording Secretary