

MINUTES
PS 166 PTA GENERAL MEETING
OCTOBER 20TH, 2016 AT 8:30 AM IN THE CAFETERIA

I. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 8:39 AM by Nina Collmer. A quorum was established.

II. Approval of Minutes

- a. MOTION to approve the minutes of the General Board Meeting held on September 22nd, 2016 was made by Madelyn Storms and seconded by Erin Leigh Peck. The minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Presidents' Report

- a. Nina Collmer explained the role of School Leadership Team ("SLT") and the school's Comprehensive Education Plan ("CEP") goals.
 - i. SLT is comprised of five parents, five faculty, Principal Mastriano and a PTA president. Catherine Box is the Chair of SLT.
 - ii. Parents are invited to attend SLT meetings but not allowed to speak unless they are asked to speak by Chairman or given prior approval on the meeting agenda.
 - iii. CEP goals and committees: (1) student achievement, especially reading; (2) RULER program; (3) maximizing student achievement by ensuring positive school culture. Organizing comprehensive survey to see how school can better support faculty; (4) targeting the 4 learning cycles; and (5) improving communication between school and parents so that parents can help students achieve at home and improving the school website. We will be updated at each PTA meeting on each committee's goals.

IV. Zoning

- a. Kerri Keiger and/or Kim Watkins will give an update on zoning at each PTA meeting. Kim gave update from last night's meeting: The DOE heard the CEC's feedback on zoning proposals and was supposed to present a draft that would become a formal proposal at the meeting scheduled to take place Nov. 3rd. The formal proposal is supposed to be voted on Nov. 9th. Three scenarios have been presented and the CEC has been trying to understand building capacities and populations.
- b. The goal is to have the Amsterdam Housing population split among three schools. Lincoln Towers would also be split up and P.S. 452 moved (currently located in the O'Shea complex). Because of overcrowding P.S. 452 has not been able to grow as it has wanted. The CEC supports moving 452 to the new 191 building, as the teachers and staff want, so it can grow. It is estimated that 100 families would choose to move because of rezoning.
- c. There is conversely underenrollment in Harlem schools. The DOE announced one of the schools is closing so students from that school will need to be absorbed by neighboring schools.

- d. Our zone will shift slightly but won't impact any of the current zoned families.

V. Presentation by Principal Mastriano

- a. Introducing frequent progress reports in math and reading. Full assessments will happen three times a year but small assessments will take place in between so students can move between levels instead of waiting for the major assessments to take place.
- b. Principal Mastriano introduced Math Teacher Ariel Pick from Grade 4, who discussed 4th Grade math curriculum, specifically, fluency in multiplication facts. Ms. Pick presented a "Multiplication Fact Strategies" chart and explained that we are not using "carrying" and "borrowing" language anymore. Instead students are taught to get to "friendly numbers" and add on.

VI. CAP

- a. Karen Gooden updated parents on the CAP program.
 - i. Asks: Asks have gone down significantly -- from \$2,500 to \$1,000 in kindergarten, for example. The ask this year is actual cost of covering the salary of the Teaching Assistant in each class if every family paid. The hope is that lower asks will encourage more people to give, but parents are asked to give in excess of \$1,000 if they are able.
 - ii. Staffing: Staffing is full-time in kindergarten and first grades and half-time in second. There is one teaching assistant for all third grade classes. Fourth and fifth grades share one teaching assistant.
 - iii. Funding: The teaching assistance are funded by grade. CAP needs to be funded early in the year so that we don't lose the TA's in the Spring.

VII. Fall Fest

- a. Call for volunteers. All hands on deck.

VIII. Auction

- a. A new venue, the Diamond Horseshoe has been secured. The theme will be "All That Jazz." Auction committee is still looking for an auctioneer.

IX. Green and Wellness

- a. Zero waste initiative: There have been two training sessions with a liaison from the DOE. The parents will volunteer in cafeteria. A link to Sign-up Genius will be circulated so that parents can sign up to volunteer.
- b. New patio tables have been put together.

X. Adjournment

- a. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:43 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet Moyle, Recording Secretary