

Minutes
PS 166 PTA General Meeting
September 21, 2011

There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order.

Principal's Report

During Back to School Night, the Principal walked into many classrooms. She was pleased to see that the presentations were very good.

Building community is very important as is exceeding the standard. The Principal articulated the following goals:

- Keep striving to be great
- Meet common core standards
- teacher evaluation model so that where there is strength the teachers share it with others.

Teacher teams are being created and will work vertically.

Teacher workshops will involve teachers looking at their own work and self evaluating.

PS 166 earned a B last year from the NY Department of Education.

PS 166 received a \$225,000 technology grant and discussions will occur with the SLT and other relevant parties so that it can be spent on what the school needs most including computers and, possibly, smart boards.

Budget cuts hit PS 166 as they did others. The goal is to maintain teachers and the quality of the education.

A new 5th grade Town Council is being created to build internal community and to encourage them to lead.

Honor Chorus is going to be by audition rather than include the entire 5th grade.

Generation Own is a new program that teaches about community service.

Extended day and Book Clubs have started. Extended day is supportive and the book clubs encourage a deeper engagement with reading.

Because of scheduling issues, not every class will have all the specials in the first half of the year. A flip will occur mid-way through the year.

Backpack Safety

A presentation occurred on the proper way to carry a backpack.

PTA President Announcements

- Meet and Greet for 1st, 2nd and new parents next Tuesday night
- School Photo day is October 13
- Fall Fest is October 23
- After School Enrichment Program is taking registrations and will try to accommodate everyone.

Thank you to Deb F and the teachers for all their hard work last year. Congratulations on the B grade.

- Snack Policy

A new K and 1st grade snack policy has been instituted. Each child will now bring his/her own snack rather than having one parent bring in snack for the entire class.

Classroom Assistants

There is a classroom assistant in each classroom. We need to focus on raising the money to keep them there.

Community Building Committee

This committee runs activities to bring the community together. The most important one is the International Dinner which will take place on March 15th. In addition, they will work on servicing projects and other community activities.

Fall Fest Update

Rodger Wells is the Fall Fest chairman. There are 31 days until Fall Fest and there is a lot to do. The big stuff is coming together, but we still need volunteers.

Auction Update

The Auction will be on April 27th at Landmarc on the Park. Help will be needed with donations and other aspects of the auction which will run similarly to last year.

Wellness/Green Committee Update

The committee distributed green cleaners to the teachers. Thanks were given to everyone for their donations in support of the green cleaners. A plea for return of the green surveys was made.

Chef Stefanie has started teaching the kids about nutrition and food.

There will be collections made for bottle caps and old sneakers.

External Affairs Report

A short report was given regarding issues such as overcrowding and the role of the CEC.

Kindergarten Yard Update

The yard cannot be used until the City determines whether a brick wall is structurally sound. Currently, the Kindergartners are using the reading garden.

Garden Committee Update

The committee needs new leaders because the current committee members' children will be graduating this year.

Open PTA Positions Announced

- Corresponding Secretary
- Kindergarten Representative

Other Open Positions Announced

- Assistant to the Treasurer
- School Store

Approval of June Minutes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the minutes of the June PTA General Meeting was unanimously approved by the following resolution:

Approval of the Minutes

RESOLVED, that minutes of the June PTA Board meeting are approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.