

Minutes
PS 166 PTA General Meeting
March 15, 2013

There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by the PTA co-Presidents.

PTA President's Welcome and Opening of Professional Development Day Vote

The PTA Co-President, Karyn Gooden, opened the meeting welcoming everyone. Ms. Gooden then announced that the voting on the proposed Professional Development half-school days would begin and that voting would be held open until 9:50.

The PTA co-presidents introduced the new Principal (formerly the Interim Acting Principal) and welcomed her on behalf of the entire PTA.

Principal's Report

The principal thanked the parents for the warm welcome now that she has been appointed the permanent principal at PS 166. The principal specifically thanked the parents for providing the funding needed to hire the math and literacy coaches. Each coach has been essential to helping the teachers. The literacy coach is working to re-write the entire curriculum. The math coach has done the same. Things are very busy at PS 166. K – 2 are very important grades because they set the stage for the later grade. New books have been ordered at all levels including myths and legends and other new types of books. It is important that the students be engaged and that they love school.

After School Program at PS 166

The after school program ("ASP") at PS 166 has grown enormously over the years into a very large and complex undertaking. There are many employees and it has become very complicated for the Board of Friends of PS 166 to manage the legal and other compliance implications of running such a complex program. Over the years, there have been periodic discussions regarding how to streamline the program. Many other local schools have outsourced their after school programs to vendors who specialize in running these programs and it has been decided that it would be advantageous to look to one of these vendors to run the ASP at PS 166. A group of parents will be asked to interview various vendors and assist in selecting a vendor for next year. It is hoped that the program will be kept essentially the same, but better. Anyone interested in being part of the group looking at vendors was asked to sign up or let someone on the PTA executive board know of his/her interest.

Deb Markewich

- Powerpoint link to yesterday's presentation on the NYS test will be make available
- No classes have turned in 100% of the surveys

Friends of PS 166 Fundraising

The auction is on April 26. The on-line auction goes live on April 7. Volunteers are still needed to solicit items. Classes are beginning to work on their auction projects. If you haven't heard whether your class has begun, please check with your class representative. Items for baskets will be collected beginning Monday. Any questions should be directed to Anna Cipriano.

Wellness

- Composting was acknowledged by the mayor in his State of the City address. The plan is for it to go city-wide in 2014.
- School Foods has decided that schools using sugar trays such as PS 166 will no longer have to pay extra for them. Hopefully Styrofoam trays will be eliminated city-wide next year.
- PS 166 is a registered eco school.
- If PS 166 meets four criteria in its garden it might qualify as a wildlife area.
- Next Friday after drop off there is a Wellness committee meeting.

International Dinner

Takes place on Thursday, March 21 from 6:30 – 8:30. Classes were assigned specific parts of the meal, but feel free to bring whatever you want.

Grandparents Day

A volunteer is need to help organize the day with the other two parents who will be running it on May 10th.

CEC Update

These are parent councils. All parent volunteers serve a 2 year term. Parents self-nominate. It is great to be part of an organization that helps parents with issues at school. There are official duties under NYS law including approving re-zoning of schools, co-locations and other significant changes in use. For example, there is a proposal to demolish certain schools and give title and air rights to developers who will then lease the lower floor to be used as a school. Anyone interested in running for CEC should consider it. Information is available at cec3.org.

SLT

Working on a homework survey that will go out next week. Please fill out one per child.

Nominating Committee

A nominating committee has begun to try to find candidates for the PTA executive board. All positions are available and people should consider running. Descriptions of the jobs will be posted.

Richard Rodgers Day

Richard Rodger's daughter has donated \$500 to underwrite the cost of the day.

Presentation of the Proposed Bylaw Amendments

Dahlia Doumar, the PTA secretary, reviewed in detail the proposed changes to the PTA Bylaws. The amended bylaws will be voted on at the next PTA general meeting.

PD Vote Results

The ballots were counted in the presence of the members. All three PD votes were approved by the members.

Adoption of the February Minutes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the minutes of the February 2013 PTA General Meeting was unanimously approved by the following resolution:

Approval of the Minutes

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

There being no further business, the meeting was ADJOURNED.