

MINUTES
PS 166 PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
APRIL 25, 2014 AT 9:04 AM IN THE CAFETERIA

Approved by unanimous vote
at the May 16, 2014 Meeting

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 am by Co-President Liz Wedlan.
Quorum was established.

II. Approval of Minutes

MOTION to approve the draft minutes of the March 20, 2014 General Membership meeting was made and seconded.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

III. Reports

a) PTA Co-Presidents

Jen Hogan welcomed everyone and thanked several parents for their volunteer work. Special thanks to Gloria Lee and Thad Buzolich for their work on preparing the draft budget. Also special thanks to the teachers and Administration for their efforts in getting the students well prepared for the recent ELA tests and the upcoming New York State Mathematics Standardized Tests.

Jen announced that a lot of time was spent on budget preparation. There were also recent budget meetings with parents.

In addition to conducting a survey of the teachers, a “sit-down” meeting with the teachers is planned, leading up to a vote on the draft budget by the General Membership at the June PTA meeting.

Liz Wedlan made a brief announcement on the status of the playground renovation.

Several questions, answers and discussions among parents followed.

b) Principal

Principal Mastriano welcomed all.

Then the Principal reflected on the past events of the current academic year, and outlined various activities planned for the rest of the year.

Principal Mastriano gave an overview of genres and concepts in Reading, Writing and Math and announced that planning for the next academic year will begin in May.

In conclusion, the Principal thanked all parents for their support and dedication to the school and looks forward to the end-of-year events this spring.

c) Parent Coordinator

Deborah Markewich made the following announcements directed mainly to parents of children applying for kindergarten next year...

- Pre-registration is getting started and is scheduled for May 13th and May 15th by appointment.
- Parents of children who were offered placement to the General Education program or of a child who is a sibling and met the G&T sibling score cut-off are encouraged to go on-line and sign up for an appointment at www.ps166.org.
- No zoned children were waitlisted because the DOE has offered placement to all zoned children.
- Non-zoned children siblings are the next to receive offers when space permits.

Deborah responded to various questions from parents.

d) Budget Discussion

PTA Treasurer Gloria Lee distributed two handouts...

1. Friends of PS 166 Budget Review
2. Friends of PS 166 Budget Overview

Emphasizing that the numbers shown are still preliminary, Gloria reviewed and commented on the following topics in detail...

- Historical Perspective for fiscal years 2012, 2013 and 2014. Values displayed were Gross Income, Expenses and Net Income from all sources excluding the Afterschool Program, CAP and Chess Team.
- Top 5 Income Categories, namely Auction, Annual Fund, Fall Fest, Broadway Sings and Walkathon represent approximately 87% of Total Income for each of the fiscal years under review.
- Top 10 Expense Categories vary from year to year.

Gloria then referred to the Budget Overview for fiscal 2015 handout and commented on the various expense line items which are being increased and decreased respectively, and the reasons for the changes. She also responded to questions from parents.

A lengthy discussion followed.

At the conclusion of Gloria's address, Liz Wedlan invited more feedback.

There will be another meeting with parents on May 16 to discuss the budget and a vote will be held at the PTA General Membership meeting in June to approve a final draft of the budget.

e) CEC3

Barbara Denham, PS 166 parent and current Treasurer of the Community Education Council, District 3 provided an update on current issues facing CEC3.

Barbara, who is also a member of the Common Core Standards Implementation and Testing Committee, commented on this committee's focus and concerns.

IV. **Committees and Fundraisers**

1) Grandparents & Special Friends Day

Charlotte Dooling gave a general update on this event.

Today is the last day to register for the event scheduled for May 9th. Only Grandparents or Special Friends up to a maximum of two per family can register, but parent volunteers are needed to help with the activities planned.

Charlotte emphasized that due to the nature of the event and the crowds expected, the event is not suited for anyone who is physically frail.

In response to a question, Charlotte pointed out that although this event is not a fundraiser, some guests made donations in the past after attending, but it is purely voluntary.

2) Family Fitness Fun Night

On behalf of Camila Rodriguez-Perusse, Liz Wedlan announced that Family Fitness Fun Night will be held on May 15.

3) Nominating Committee

Jen Hogan reported that former PTA Co-Presidents, Christine DiPasquale and Karyn Gooden will chair the Nominating Committee for next year's PTA Officer Elections.

All PTA Executive Board positions are open to candidates, and nominating forms are available by the security desk.

Stacey Shapiro and Stacy Boccabella will collect names of parents interested in running for two parent seats on the SLT for the 2014-15 two year term.

PTA Executive Board elections followed by the SLT elections, will be held at the June PTA meeting.

4) CAP

Jen Hogan read a brief report from Karyn Gooden.

CAP funds for kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades are in good shape for 2013-14.

Extra funds will be carried over for next year's CAP.

V. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter A. Rodrigues, Recording Secretary