

MINUTES
PS 166 PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MAY 14, 2015 AT 8:51 AM IN THE CAFETERIA

Approved by unanimous vote
at the June 10, 2015 Meeting

- I. **Call to Order**
The meeting was called to order at 8:51 am.
Quorum was established.
- II. **Approval of Minutes**
MOTION to approve the draft minutes of the April 16th, 2015 General Membership Meeting, was made and seconded.
By show of hands, the motion was unanimously adopted.
- III. **Library Presentation (Leslie Zampetti)**
Ms. Volkmar introduced the school's librarian Ms. Zampetti who was invited to make a presentation to the parent body.
Ms. Zampetti first gave an update on her current contract which is for \$10,000, and as of April 30, 2015, she has billed for \$7,156.25 which is within the budget allowance.
Her current responsibilities which are discharged over three shifts per week include...
1. Library Administration
 2. Library Management, and
 3. Spelling Bee.
- After describing the details of each of her major responsibilities, Ms. Zampetti outlined future considerations relating to Learning Leaders, the scarcity of long-term volunteers, and the potential grant for improvements to the library.
In order to attract volunteers to assist in the library, Ms. Zampetti hopes to host an Open House in the Fall.
Next, Ms. Zampetti explained the proposed changes to her contract and scheduled hours of work.
Her responsibilities will remain the same.
At the conclusion of her address, Ms. Zampetti responded to questions from the parents.
- IV. **Discussion of Math Goals (Ms. Mastriano, Ms. Spanos, Nicola Goodwin)**
The Principal welcomed all and introduced Math Coach Nicola Goodwin.
Assisted by Ms. Spanos, Ms. Goodwin described her role in coaching the teachers at PS 166 on the Common Core Learning Standards in Mathematics and conducting math workshops for parents of all students at the school.
The Principal noted that Ms. Goodwin is at the school on Thursday each week.
Although mathematics is the same, the way to present it has changed, so we need to be current on what is new.
Pointing to the school's website and its reference materials on the kindergarten to 5th grade math curricula, Ms. Mastriano emphasized that she wanted to ensure that everyone is supported.
- V. **Open Safety Meeting**
Ms. Mastriano introduced guest speaker Mr. Raymond Palmer, Director of Student Support Services.
Mr. Palmer spoke extensively on safety and discipline at PS 166.
Mr. Palmer's presentation included a period of lively discussion with parents on topical safety issues such as the frequency of fire drills, as well as "hard" and "soft" lockdowns, which help to ensure a safe and orderly environment in which teaching and learning can take place each day.
Next Mr. Palmer spoke about the Bill of Students Rights and Responsibilities in which expectations are established and documented. The standards apply to all students including those with disabilities.
Other safety issues discussed included prearranged visits to the classroom by parents, early dismissal of students, crossing guards at street corners, and surveillance cameras which are planned for installation by early July.
At the conclusion of his address, Mr. Palmer responded to questions from parents.

Nurse Hamilton also reminded parents to have their children wear appropriate shoes for climbing stairs and thus avoid injuries caused by tripping accidents.

VI. **Reports**

a) **PTA Co-Presidents**

District Art Show

Ms. Volkmar gave an update on the district art show planned for May 14 and May 15.

Executive Board Elections – June 10, 2015

Ms. Volkmar reported that elections for next year's PTA Executive Board and the parent members of the SLT will take place on June 10.

Most current PTA Executive Board members will run for a second term.

SLT elections for three seats will follow the PTA Executive Board elections.

Ms. Volkmar also gave a brief overview of the responsibilities of the SLT which includes the writing of the school's Comprehensive Educational Plan.

VII. **Continued 2015/2016 Budget Discussion**

Ms. Volkmar announced that since the last budget presentation, there were a few changes notably Technology was added back to the budget.

The plan is to use E-Chalk for our website because it is more user friendly than what we currently have and which is hosted for free by a parent member of the PTA.

Ms. Volkmar explained that there are a lot of line items because the PTA wants parents to see where money is being spent, and that there is sufficient money in the bank to pay for programs planned for next year.

The expenditure approval process was outlined and it was pointed out that everything that is budgeted is not always spent.

VIII. **Committees and Events**

a) **School Art Fair May 21 (Ms. King)**

This fundraiser is scheduled for May 21.

Ms. King would appreciate three or four volunteers to "set-up", handle the "Sales & Refreshments" table, and "clean-up".

b) **Green Wellness / Gardening (Lisa Berry and Suzi Gordon)**

Ms. Berry gave a brief update on recent activities of the Green Wellness / Gardening Committee.

Volunteers are needed to help maintain the garden.

IX. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter A. Rodrigues, Recording Secretary