



**PTA Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2019**

About 10 parents and the executive board were in attendance.

President's report -- Ashley Salazar

Box Tops for Education: Thanks to the parents who helped Stacey Shick Samuels and parent coordinator Jinnie Hackman to compile the Box Tops we received: Katy Osborne Chiu, Joann O'Shea Ajello and Michelle Ly. We raised \$72.90 for the school.

The 2nd-3rd grade production: Mrs. Ugbomah and Mrs. Bonthuys have written an adaptation of "The Greatest Showman," to be performed in June. The students selected for the drama club are very excited.

The first session of Cumbia ends in March, with a second coming in April with new signups.

Double-parking is still an issue at morning drop-off and afternoon pickup. This is a problem for buses and construction vehicles coming down the street

Treasurer's report -- Paul Goldfarb

Opening balance: \$22,463.41

Income: \$155.89 (Amazon Smile and a corporate match)

Expenses: \$10,794.84

The PTA is on track for next year, to leave the recommended \$10,000 to \$15,000 in the account for fall expenses.

Motion to approve February's minutes -- Stacey Shick Samuels

Approved without objection

SLT meeting update -- Michele Molfetta

A status update on construction of the new building: A mild winter means there's been no delays. Plans are for four classes of pre-K and kindergarten to be in old building next year, with construction happening in the cafeteria and on the 68th Road side of the third floor to create new classrooms with bathrooms.

Drop-off and dismissals for next year: Kindergarten and pre-K will use the 69th Avenue entrance that pre-K uses now. The new main entrance for the school will be on 110th Street, and first, second and third grades will enter there. Fourth-grade will be dismissed from an entrance on 68th Road, partly because they are allowed under DOE rules to dismiss themselves. Details will be distributed before the start of the school year.

Questions were raised about whether another aide will be available for next year, to help staff the three doors, and whether fourth-graders will be locked out of the building if no one is there to pick them up. Parents of multiple students will have to be cognizant about moving quickly between

entrances.

Parents raised some complaints about how the drama club membership was decided this year. Parents were upset that the school went from every student in a grade being involved into the play, to such a small group this year. The auditions were rigorous, and about 20 students didn't get roles. The staff used a rubric to decide who was cast. The administration said that having every student involved won't be feasible as the school grows, and that's life around the theater. Parents asked how we can get to a point in the future where more students are involved in the production, if not on stage. Teachers pointed out that the kids are still getting drama instruction during the school day. We have to be respectful of the fact that we have just one drama teacher. In the future, the school hopes to have more arts opportunities -- music, visual arts, etc. Maybe in the future kids will make sets and Playbills, etc. This is a transition year, and it's tough. There was discussion of not doing a play at all this year, so this is the best the school could do.

Selection of a nominating committee for 2019-20 PTA election -- Rebekah Pokart-Cabonargi

The nominating committee needs to send notices seeking candidates for the PTA executive board and SLT seats, and to facilitate the election at May's PTA meeting.

Melissa Lugo, Jenny Verdon, Johnathan Salazar and Marina Zakry volunteered

Sector D NYPD Meeting -- Rebekah Pokart-Cabonargi

Rebekah attended a meeting with the two police officers who are assigned to patrol the area around the school. She mentioned that we have a double-parking issue, and the officers are aware, but want to strike a balance between being fair to parents and keeping traffic flowing. AEA is on the list for a crossing guard, but there are not enough guards, and AEA isn't a priority. Rebekah made the officers aware that the school is growing, and will have students eligible to walk home alone next year. Rebekah also brought up to administration the possibility of running a Vision Zero assembly for students about crossing the street and other safety issues.

Fundraising updates -- Ashley Salazar

The AEA night at Chipotle raised \$152.33

Volunteers were needed for the bake sale during parent-teacher conferences.

Miss Chocolate sale -- We're starting to get orders in. Please send them in when you're ready. A flier is going out with additional information. We're looking into an incentive for the class that sells most.

Ying Lai: She would like to plan an event at ProLine archery -- Can we get 12 adults who would be interested in an archery event on a weekend for a social fundraiser? Cost would be about \$40. We decided to set it up for May 4.

Q&A

Questions for the parent coordinator: Was there a lockdown at P.S. 303 on the recent day when there was a shooting near FHHS? Other parents with students at P.S. 175 and Halsey received notice of one. If there was a lockdown, shouldn't parents have been made aware? What should parents expect in the event of another threat?