

PTA General Virtual Meeting Minutes Thursday, December 10, 2020

Call to order at 7:05pm - Shirley Chun

5 Executive Board Members and about 57 in attendance.

Meeting held virtually via the Zoom platform.

- Community Guidelines reviewed

COMMUNITY GUIDELINES

To provide a welcoming and safe environment for all and to ensure a smooth and productive meeting, please see the Community Guidelines below.

Community Do's

- Keep discussion **positive** and focused on our school community
- Use language appropriate for a **caring and respectful** community
- **Constructively** raise issues for discussion
- Actively listen for **understanding**
- Work together to devise practical **solutions**

Community Don'ts

- Do not **put down** or make inflammatory statements or allegations against individuals or other organizations
- Do not **discriminate** in any way
- Do not **bring up** concerns, problems or conflicts with individual parents, teachers or administrators.

*Bullying of any kind, including insulting, targeting, or excluding any individuals will **NOT** be tolerated.*

If you have any questions or comments, please email the PTA Executive Board directly at 303pta@gmail.com. thanks!

Motion to approve the minutes from the November 2020 meeting - Onome Atie-Egone

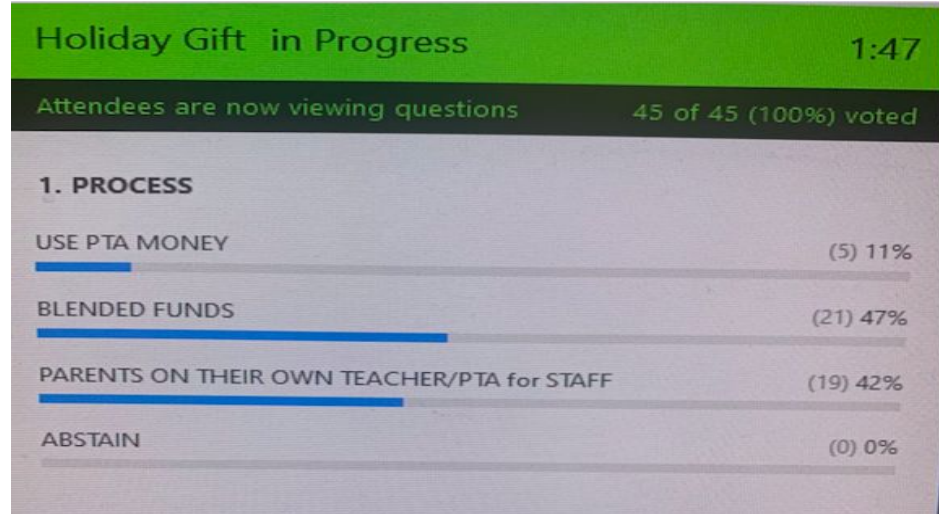
- Motion carries for approval of Thursday November 12th meeting minutes
 - 1 person abstained

Co-President's Report - Elaine Lee-Wong/Simone Dornbach

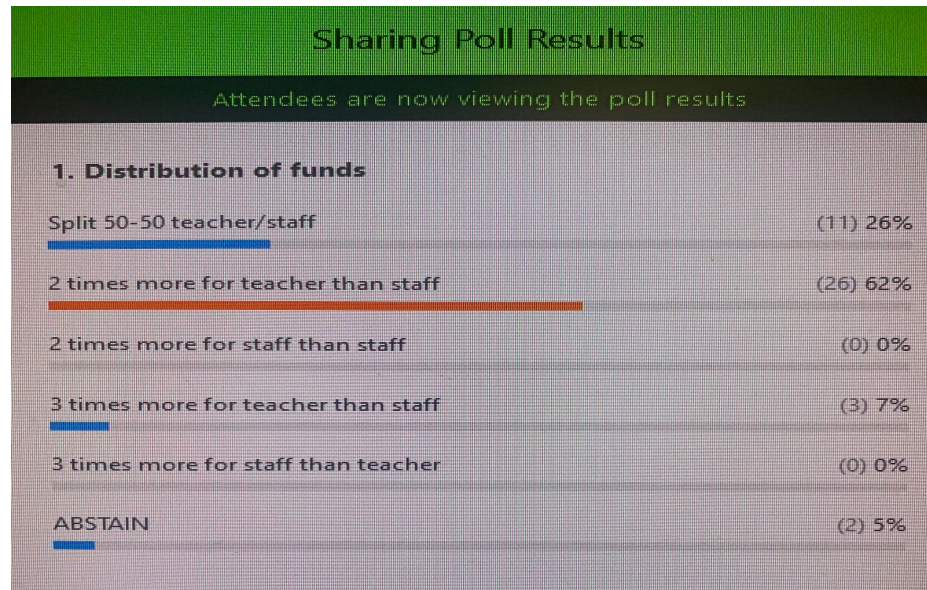
- Teacher's Corner: Meet Ms. Ahamad & Mrs. O'Driscoll
 - **Ms. Ahamad**
 - 1st year at AEA - teaching Technology through the Arts - new curriculum (teaches grades K, 1, 4 & 5)
 - Digital etiquettes
 - Digital art
 - Coding
 - Teaches PE - Ms. Danisi & Ms. Amber class
 - 3 years at DOE

- **Mrs. O'Driscoll**
 - 1st year at AEA teaching social studies (1st - 5th grade)
 - Teaching social studies through arts, literature & music
 - Upper grades: Great Migration, Harlem Renaissance & Civil Rights movement
 - 1st & 2nd grade - community, America, Citizenship, Culture
 - 2nd grade - underground railroad
 - Also teaching PE (1st, 3rd & 4th grade)
 - Teaching since 1999 - has taught 1st - 5th grade
 - Best way to communicate with both Ms. Ahamad & Mrs O'Driscoll is via email. Their emails are posted in google classroom.
- PTA ongoings/Business
 - Updates from Superintendent, Dr. Pate - **Simone Dornbach**
 - 5 day in-person learning - Dr. Pate requests our patience and understanding - not every school is able to accommodate 5 days a week schedule. Individual schools have to work out their unique challenges and might not be as soon as announced by the mayor.
 - Questions/concerns can be directed to her - if you have questions or concerns, let us know so we can bundle our questions and concerns and email Dr. Pate
 - Plans for 2021 (Fundraising/Bylaws Amending, Elections) - **Elaine Lee-Wong**
 - Fundraising for Spring:
 - Read -A-Thon
 - Miss Chocolate
 - Restaurant virtual takeout day
 - Picture day - Stomping Ground
 - Past Fundraisers:
 - Mask chain & Double good (Popcorn) - We did very well - once we get all checks cashed, we will let everyone know the numbers. Thank you all for participating.
 - PTA of AEA Bylaws are up for review/revisions. We would set up a committee to review the various aspects (Date, time, role descriptions, etc) of the bylaws.
 - PTA elections are coming up in May 2021- start thinking if you would like to be part of the board for 2021/2022 school year. Also, available are seats for SLT. If you have any questions about the elections or any of the positions for PTA or SLT please email the PTA.
 - AEA Holiday & End of Year Collection - **Elaine Lee-Wong**
 - AEA class parents normally collect money for gifts for our teachers, staff and administration. Since we do not have class parents, we are reaching out to see if (and how) we want to proceed with money collection for AEA staff this holiday season.
 - Q & A, Suggestions: robust discussion, suggestions & next steps -**PTA community**
 - School wide collection
 - 10 staff (not including Mrs. Leto & Gallo); 23 teachers; 4 paras; 4 cluster teachers
 - Vartges Saroyan - leading this effort

- Motion passed: Suggested amount of \$25/family. Max of \$4400.00 (PTA to cover gap if \$4400.00 not raised).
- Poll: Holiday gift money collection process



- Poll: Distribution of funds



Treasurer's Report - Rohit Misra

- November 2020
 - Opening balance: \$54,970.45
 - Income: \$7,325.18
 - Expenses: \$3,152,67 (includes walkie talkies from last year)

- Ending balance: \$59,142.96
- Annual Appeal Update - \$24,325.60 collected since October. 29% of participation from the whole school.

School Leadership Team Report - Michele Molfetta

- Period for opt in for blended option ended 11/15
- 303 administration looking at the numbers and how they can bring more fulltime in person learning days within safety guidelines
- Cohort A /Cohort B # of in person learning days - Cohort A has had less in person school days. Administration is aware of our concerns - we are staying with the current cohort schedules with no adjustments.
- Construction update - on track
- Hot lunches - no hot lunches because we cannot utilize cafeteria due to keeping with safety regulations
- Think central - up and running and it is free
- Raz kids - is working for all kindergarten and 1st grade classes
- Holiday travel & Quarantine - please follow NY state travel executive order
 - 14 day quarantine requirement if you travel outside our bordering states
 - Test out option available - please read that option for more information
 - If your child is in blended learning and you have to quarantine, they will be able to join the remote class option for the quarantine period.

New Business/ Open Forum

- Kindergarten applications is open - 12/10 through 1/19
- Middle School - D28 sent out a flyer for middle school virtual open house - it is posted on our Facebook page & AEA administration sent it to 5th grade families.
- Nothing on Pre-K admissions yet - usually comes after kindergarten
- AEA applied for a waiver for exception to the proposed DOE blended model prior to the beginning of the school year to allow for our current blended model - so we might not see a lot of changes. Our administration is still looking at more options to increase in-person learning days - If you are in 2nd or 4th grade blended learning, you should have gotten a survey - please respond if you have not done so already.

Announcements

- Winter Break - Thursday, Dec 24 thru Friday, Jan 1st
- Next SLT Meeting - Wednesday, 1/6/21 - email Ms. Gallo if you would like to attend
- Next CEC Meeting - Thursday, 1/7/21
- Next PTA Meeting - Thursday, 1/14/21

Adjournment time at 8:35pm.