

PTA OF AEA
PTA General Virtual Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 11, 2021

Call to order at 7:02pm - Shirley Chun

5 Executive Board Members and 33 members in attendance.

Meeting held virtually via the Zoom platform.

- Roll Call
- Community Guidelines reviewed

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

- Motion carries for approval of Thursday, January 14th meeting minutes

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

- PTA Ongoings/Business
 - PTA & AEA - **Elaine**
 - Fundraisers
 - Miss Chocolate - started February 8th and runs until March 1st - delivery expected end of March in time for Passover/Easter.
 - Read-A-Thon- roll out on March 8th. It encourages reading while fundraising. Special guest to do a read-a-long to kick off read-a-thon. There will be prizes given out.
 - Parent Teachers Conference - March 4th. Early dismissal @ 11am for the blended students. Teachers will send out an email a few days before March 4th for parents to sign up for a time slot. We will serve them lunch for that day. We are looking at maybe Pizza.
 - Pre-K admissions: Application period February 24th - April 30th. AEA will have an open house for pre-K on March 12th¹.

¹ Correction: During the meeting the date was misstated as March 11th. The correct date for pre-k open house is March 12th.

- On Stage with Mrs. Leto - On Wednesday March 3rd. An RSVP form will be sent out where you can send your questions. On stage is a forum for parents to talk with Mrs. Leto and Mrs. Gallo. It is usually centered around a topic but this time it will be more of a check in.
- Updates from CEC- **Simone**
 - Report from President's Council
 - Presentation on rank choice voting - presenter offered to come to our schools if families have any interest in learning more. If this is wanted, we can organize for the presenter to come and provide us more information.
 - All parents should please set up a DOE account - the NYCSA student account. Only 70% of our families have this account active. The account has COVID consent forms, test results, access to parent university and you can use this account to run and vote for the CEC positions.
 - CEC - please consider running for the CEC. It is important for our school to be represented. The application period ends February 28th. If you decide to run, please let us know so we can spread the word amongst our families so we can vote for you.
 - CEC Townhall with Chancellor Carranza from 2/4/2021 - **Stacey Shick-Samuels**
 - Diversity planning process - diversifying middle school. Contract given to a consulting group called WXY. The contract is on hold - not currently active while the pandemic runs its course. The intention is to restart the process once DOE finances can support the contract and when we are allowed to gather in person.
 - DOE to potentially change G&T Testing and this raised a lot of questions about middle school and honors placements. Honors placement is not something DOE central can change on their own - it is decided on the district and school level.

- Middle school placements will consider placing twins together when deciding on placement (district wide consideration).
- Superintendent D28, Dr. Pates, answered some questions about whether the admission policy of AEA will be changed once the extension of P.S. 196 is completed. We have Dr. Pates' full support on the admission policy change (full district wide lottery without consideration given to P.S. 196) for the school year 2022-23 once the addition opens in P.S. 196 - it was a strong endorsement.

Treasurer's Report - Rohit Misra

- January 2021
 - Opening balance: \$61,092.29
 - Income: \$5,368.19 (most from annual appeal and corporate donations)
 - Expenses: \$0.00
 - Ending balance: \$66,460.48
- Receipts for annual appeal donations were sent out. If you did not get your receipt or if there are any errors, please let us know.

School Leadership Team (SLT) Report - Stacey Shick Samuels

- SLT met 2/3/21
- Construction is completed - playground is finished. Pre-K and Kindergarten students will start using it when weather permits.
- Middle school application is ongoing - extended until 2/23 - Mrs. Leto & Mrs. Gallo are available if you need help in sorting out the process. Honor's placement will happen once students are assigned to their schools. They are working with other principals to figure this out as there was no standardized testing last year.
- Mrs. Leto, Mrs. Gallo and the teachers are working on plans for the grading system for the upcoming system for 3rd - 5th grade. These students will be getting number grades. The lower grades will get the last grading periods grading system (MT, N). Still under review - the SLT will finalize at their next meeting (3/3) before the report cards come out.
- Administration is looking for opportunities to bring more students for blended learning - including individual kids that have IEP. This applies to the upper grades only because they are smaller in size than kindergarten and 1st grade.

- School has funding for a guidance counselor to come in 1 day a week. They are looking for potentially a retired teacher to fill that slot.
- If you need further clarification on any of these topics, please feel free to email the SLT @ 303SLT@gmail.com

Racial Equity Committee Report - Shantelle Guyton

- We will be hosting a Black History Month Celebration taking place on 2/16 @ 5pm. Activities including some reading, discussions, video content, and art projects. We will send out more details.
- If you have any questions, suggestions or would like to participate please email us @ 303racialequity@gmail.com

Old Business - Elaine Lee-Wong

- Bylaws Committee
 - We need to form a bylaw committee. We sent out forms for volunteers. We had 3-5 volunteers respond. You will get an email with instructions of what needs to be changed and the timeline.
- Nomination Committee
 - We need 3 - 5 parents. We only have 2 parent volunteers at this time. We need one volunteer to have a committee. To volunteer you should not have any intentions for running for a PTA or SLT seat.
 - One parent volunteered during the meeting- election will be in May, More information will be sent to the volunteers.
 - Volunteers: Kiki, Marina & Michelle.

New Business

- Student Planners - **Elaine**
 - Guided calendar for students and teachers to write in assignments.
 - Planners are for 2nd -5th grades (Kindergarten use a sheet sent home. 1st grade fills in a sheet).
 - We order from School Mate - we can get a discount if we order by 3/8/21. Discount - \$0.30 off of each planner and a snap in ruler for free.

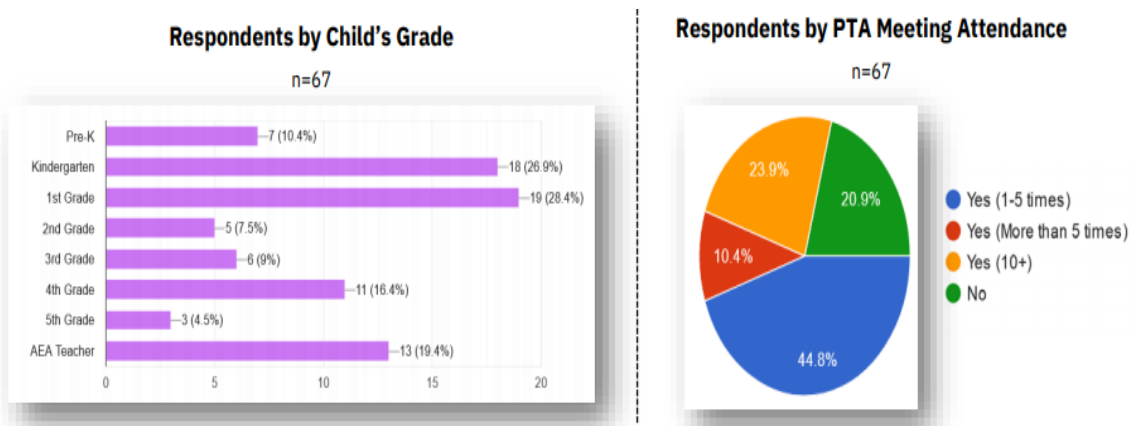
- We need 210 planners which will cost \$630 including S&H
- Discussion: to continue using School Mate as the supplier, alternate planners for 5th graders, voting & motion to approve ordering.
- Poll: Student planners for 2021/2022 school year - 28 voted

| | |
|--|---|
| Continue with the current planners | Yes - 17 (61%) No- 4 (14%) Abstain - 7 (25%) |
| Table and research new planners and vote in March | Yes - 3 (11%) No- 4 17 (61%) Abstain - 8 (29%) |

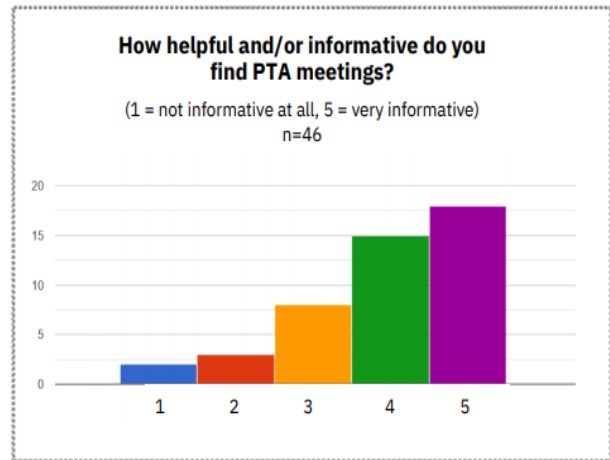
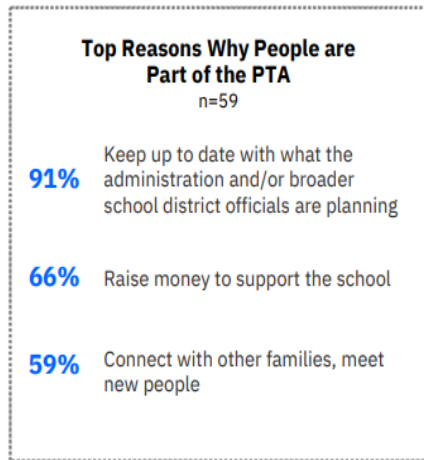
- Motion carried to approved budget of \$630 for School Mate planners for 210 students.

- PTA Survey - **Shirley Chun**

- 67 total responses



- Over 90% of respondents are part of the PTA to stay updated with news from administration and district officials; over 70% find the PTA meetings helpful and informative.



- Areas of improvement:

| | AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT | HOW TO ADDRESS |
|----------------|---|---|
| Format | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too long • More respect needed from all parents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim for 1 hour with more targeted agenda (special meetings for more complex topics) • Community guidelines shared and will be enforced |
| Content | <p><i>More discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused on ways to support the school and students • Longer Q&A <p><i>More involvement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More communication from administration and staff • Increase participation from other parents | <p>Adjust agenda and content / topics to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include more discussion • Allow more time for Q&A • Create Principal and Teacher's Corner • Encourage others to speak up |

- Enrichment programs - **Shirley Chun**
 - Brief Introduction to what types of enrichment programs & request for volunteers to look into vendors and any other research involved.
 - Q&A
 - Earth's day event in April - Kiki volunteered and asked for others to volunteer to assist.
 - Setting up an enrichment committee - team brainstorms and researches various options for enrichment for our school.
 - School also planning some enrichment programs for next year.

Announcements - Shirley

- Friday, February 12th - NO SCHOOL - Lunar New Year
- Monday, Feb. 15th - Friday, Feb. 19th - NO SCHOOL - Mid Winter Recess
- Wednesday, March 3rd - SLT & On Stage With Mrs Leto
- Thursday, March 4th - AEA Parent/Teacher Conference
- Thursday, March 4th - D28 CEC Monthly Meeting
- Thursday, March 11th - PTA March Meeting

Adjournment time at 8:17 pm