



PTA of AEA
PTA General Virtual Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 11, 2021

Call to order at 7:03pm - Shirley Chun

5 Executive Board Members and 43 members in attendance.

Meeting held virtually via the Zoom platform.

- Roll Call
- Community Guidelines reviewed

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

- Motion carries for approval of Thursday, February 11th meeting minutes

Teacher's Corner - Meet Mrs. Bonthuys (Drama) & Mrs Vasilakis (STEAM)

- **Laura Bonthuys**
 - Drama and physical education teacher
 - Kindergarten: upcoming unit - puppetry- hand, stick & shadow puppets. Exploring character voice- pitch, tempo, & volume
 - Grades 2, 3, & 4: Virtual production
 - 5th Grade: Editing project
 - PE: Mr. Kinane, Mrs. Van Laarhoven, Mrs. Bates, & 5th- upcoming unit: body composition
- **Anne Marie Vasilakis**
 - STEAM, Science & Physical Education teacher
 - Follows the Engineering Design Process
 - Kindergarten: working on habitat project
 - 1st grade: creating a playground equipment
 - 2nd & 3rd grade use the amplified science program
 - 4th grade - planning & preparing for state test (not sure if it the state test will be administered this year)
 - PE: K-302: Ms. Garger, 1-318: Ms. Alfonsin, & Ms. Pizzurro

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

- PTA Ongoings/Business
 - PTA & AEA - **Elaine**
 - Miss Chocolate:
 - 22 sellers - sold almost \$4000. Expecting a check for \$1400.
 - Read- A-Thon:
 - 3/8/21 thru 3/22/21

- Hosting some virtual events:
 - Reading buddies - looking for more older readers
 - Author reading- AEA Parent - Mr. Vinny
 - Storytime with Ms. Weissbach (retired Pre-K AEA teacher)
- 206 readers have signed up
- \$6800 raised so far
- We have physical & virtual prizes for top readers (picked via virtual raffle)
- Picture Day:
 - Survey sent few weeks ago: 131 responses - 118 responded yes for picture day
 - Vendor: Stomping ground - contract changes due to COVID - biggest change is to sign for a 2-year contract (other updates include: outdoors, social distancing, remote option, no sibling photo)
 - 3 members concerned about quality of past pictures
 - 1 member voiced steep price point
 - Motion carries to sign contract
- Updates from CEC- **Simone**
 - New Chancellor starts 3/15/21 - Meisha Porter
 - CEC: Video presentation by Halsey teachers - if interested please go to CEC website or watch the video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eegjGCT7d8s>
 - Queens public library hosts free homework help
 - CEC passed a new resolution in honor of black history month - the district is encouraging schools to teach the history of our district. P.S. 48 which is located in District 28 has a history of black families fighting for desegregation. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zaAre_E9gsc; https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vR93f1BQq8IK2DCLjUXEcnlWyMG_jorZmU6Wi8J-fqelrtSkLB-dQ5mOase3F5c0Q/pub

Treasurer's Report - Rohit Misra

- February 2021
 - Opening balance: \$66,460.48
 - Income: \$1,026.77 (Corporate donations & Amazon Smile)
 - Expenses: \$0.00
 - Ending balance: \$67,487.25

School Leadership Team (SLT) Report - Vincent Roulot

- SLT met 3/3/21
- Programming:

- Blended 2nd & 4th grade students are now fully in person (3/8) using the library & cafeteria. K & 1st grade will remain blended in Cohorts A or B.
- Special Ed teacher for Kindergarten - no start date
- Students in younger grades are not regularly attending the online classes - please encourage attendance and please supervise (no pjs and please provide meals before classes)
- 2021-2022 CEP goals: ELA, Math and parent involvement
- Still awaiting DOE's plans for summer programs
- Kids are now going outside for recess
- Middle school enrollment 100% complete
- Teachers are getting the COVID vaccine
- On stage with Mrs. Leto
 - Hot meals starting 4/5/2021 - no menus yet
 - Graduation plans for 5th graders - no concrete plans for now
- If you need further clarification on any of these topics, please feel free to email the SLT @ 303SLT@gmail.com

Old Business -

- Nomination Committee (Kiki Blazeovski, Marina Zakry & Michelle Alarcon)
 - 4/1/21- nominations need to be returned
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeYj3l6TdNvWk-ZTaXDVqL4bSN5eCEeCqqP2krQB1UDXqtS2g/viewform>
 - 4/8/21 - opportunity to speak or present yourself to the members
 - 5/20/21 - elections
 - Mandatory positions for PTA to exist: a president, treasurer, and recording secretary. The PTA positions have one-year terms, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. Non-mandatory positions: vice president & corresponding secretary. Opportunity for co-positions. Co-positions must run together as a slate in order to serve together.
 - If no one runs for any of the mandatory PTA board positions, PTA shuts down for the upcoming school year.
 - 4 SLT seats opened. 2 year term
- Bylaws Committee (Stacey Shick Samuels, Courtnei Davis, Vincent Roulot & Crystie Wei)
 - Bylaws: lays out rules/guidelines of our PTA which must be reviewed every 3 years and has to be in accordance with the A-660 chancellor's regulations
 - Housekeeping changes:
 - Adjust description of officers to include options of co-positions
 - Adding specific duties to treasurer and secretary to include duties

they currently perform. E.g. maintaining social media page and caretaker of paypal account

- Financial duties: adjusting to 3 signatories for checks, one person can deposits checks
- Membership Eligibility: all parents/guardians are members. Grandparents are not current members. Suggestion: allow grandparents as members (but not allowed to vote, chair a committee, or run for office)
- Dues & donations: dues are for operational expenses like insurance, hosting website, paying for babysitting during in person meetings etc. Suggestion: eliminate dues or lower amount to \$20 (was \$25).
- Monthly meeting day: as it conflicts with other school meetings about 3 times a year (parent teacher conferences, meet the teachers to name a few). Should we allow virtual meeting options when we return to in-person meetings? Suggestion: 3rd Thursdays
- Executive board meeting: flexible to incoming board and publicized to the general members
- Voting: consideration for virtual voting as permitted by DOE
- Provide feedback via google for, padlet & email -
(<https://padlet.com/cdavis5242/bookmarks>;
<https://forms.gle/xDamAcsU7etzjYVy6>; or email 303pta@gmail.com)

New Business

- Earth Day Proposal - Kiki Blazeovski
 - Workshops: 5 day program over spring break - Earth Day Ambassadors
 - An opportunity to teach and then a call to action
 - Workshops: recycling, compost, energy use, permaculture, & sustainable neighborhood. Last 40 - 60mins. 1 workshop each day
 - Recycling: (virtual tour)- Sims Municipal Recycling Center, Brooklyn - FREE
 - Energy use: greenhouse gases - Watt watchers - Free
 - Permaculture: Beyond Organic Design - Gift Donation \$200 Forest Hills Community Garden
 - Sustainable neighborhood: Arch for kids - \$300 for 2 educators
 - Compost: compost collective Forest Hills (Virtual)- FREE
 - Total cost \$500 - ask: PTA fund cost
 - Q&A:
 - Age range: some programs are more specific - can be designed based on age groups interested
 - Do you have to sign up for all events: no
 - Limit of participants: ARCH for kids has a 40 max in class

- concern : not equitable - only 40 students can attend
- Poll for general sense of interest for 5 day workshop:
 - Yes- all 5 days (need to vote for funding): 10 (33%)
 - No- 2 (7%)
 - Only programs that are free - 13 (43%)
 - Abstain - 5 (17%)
- Plan out 3 day free program based on poll results
- Suggestion from one member: reach out to entire school for donations to support the paid programs

Announcements - Shirley

- Friday, March 12th - AEA Pre-K Virtual Open House
- Sunday, March 14th - Reading Buddies Event @ 3pm
- Monday, March 15th - Story Time with Ms. Weissbach @ 4pm
- Thursday, March 18th - Author Reading with Mr. Vinny @ 4pm
- Monday, March 22nd - Story Time with Ms. Weissbach @ 4pm
- Monday, March 29th - Friday, April 2nd - NO SCHOOL - Spring Recess
- Thursday, April 1st - D28 CEC Monthly Meeting
- Wednesday, April 7th - SLT
- Thursday, April 8th - PTA April Meeting

Adjournment time at 8:34 pm