



**PTA General Virtual Meeting Minutes
Thursday, Oct 14, 2021**

Call to order at 7:02pm – Stacey Shick Samuels

5 Executive Board Members and 96 members in attendance.
Meeting held virtually via the Zoom platform.

- **New Music Teacher Sam Dole**, Introduction, overview of goals and new music curriculum. Music currently being offered to grades 1-5. Forming brass ensemble for 5th graders. He will also be assisting with school productions. Can be reached at sdoleaea@gmail.com

Motion to approve the minutes from the September 2021 meeting – Louise Verga

- Motion carries for approval of June Minutes

Treasurer's Report – Irina Tamayeva

- September 2021
 - Opening balance: \$67,003.26
 - Income: \$1,658 (Stomping Ground)
 - Ending balance: \$68,661.29

Voting on PTA Expenses – Stacey Shick Samuels

- \$126.28 - Ice packs for Nurse Yana
 - \$182.88 - PTA website hosting service renewal
 - \$644 - PTA insurance renewal
 - \$100 or less on Crayons for indoor recess at request of school aide.
 - **All above approved, motion carries.**
- Point raised that previous PTA boards had discretion to spend on items of up to \$250 cost without voting as long as fully disclosed to membership. Conflicting opinion from last year's board that the *only* expenses which do not require voting are *emergency* items.
 - In the interest of efficiency and to avoid delays the current PTA would like to be able to make small necessary purchases (e.g. crayons for recess) without mandating a vote.
 - Topic to be researched further; solution will be presented and voted upon at future meeting date.

Vice President's Report – Michele Molfetta

- **Harvest Parade** Friday October 29th 8:45am – Costumes for students and parents encouraged. Parents can watch from distance.
PTA will host bake sale from Kindergarten & Pre-K entrance, chance for parents to mingle.
SignUp Genius will go out to donate goods – items will need to be individually wrapped.
- **Teacher Events** Keep an eye out for an email from your child's teacher regarding Curriculum Day / On Stage event – this will not be an open forum, teachers will be presenting on what classes are working on, goals for the year.
- **PHOTO RELEASE FORM – Reminder to return this form so school is able to share photos of events with the parent community! This is more important than ever at a time when parents are not able to attend in-person for class events or school productions.**

President's Report – Stacey

- **Why we raise money?** – Provided background for new parents on how funds have been allocated historically – e.g. GoMath program, art program for all students before DOE funded Sept 21, Recess equipment, Health and Safety purchases, Enrichment Programs e.g 92ND St Y, Staff appreciation.
- **USA Today School Ranking** – AEA among ranked among highest, 4th in state for elementary.
- **Picture Day Oct 25th**
 - Stomping Ground back by request of membership.
 - No class photos again, due to Covid restrictions, composites will be created again this year and available at a later date.
 - Photographers will wear masks and be fully vaccinated
 - **December 13th** – We hope to offer sibling photos on an opt-in basis, on the same day as the make-up photos for those students who miss the 25th.
- Summary of upcoming fundraisers events, more on this for November meeting.

School Leadership Team (SLT) Report – Vartges Saroyan

- Meeting held 10/5 (regular time 1st Tuesday of month 7:30am, 303SLT@gmail.com to ask questions)
 - COVID protocols: mask breaks added; no masks at lunch, students 3ft apart; all visitors to building required to wear mask and show proof of vaccination. Administration awaiting further guidance on mask wearing for outdoor activities. Parents/Caregivers strongly encouraged to wear masks within 4 ft of building.
 - In event of confirmed cases the DOE has a “situation room” -- generic letter goes out schoolwide, additional letter detailing specifics to affected class. At-home tests are not accepted, when a negative test is required to reenter school has to be from private or government provider.
 - Reminder to streamline student entry, have backpacks on and health screening ready.
 - Afterschool clubs for select grades to begin in October – Visual Arts, Music, Dance Troupe, Coding. These will be lottery based when oversubscribed. No rotation planned.
 - Parent Coordinator, Para, School Aide – positions remain open. *ALL* teaching posts have been filled.
 - Comprehensive Education Plan (CEP) has been approved, Mathematics only item outstanding.
 - Phone & Smart Device Policy: must be powered down and kept in student bag (including smart watches) for duration of school day.
 - District diversity project -- no change, current information suggests it will impact middle schools more than elementary.

Racial Equity Committee - Simone Dornbach

Will meet monthly at 7pm, next date November 2nd. Questions to 303racialequity@gmail.com

Announcements:

- Thursday November 18th – Next PTA Meeting
- Monday October 25th - Picture Day
- Friday October 29th – Harvest Parade

Adjournment 8:20 pm