

PPAS PTA Meeting 2024-11-20

Attendees

Physical: Paul Blankenship, Raven Catlin, Shawn Dell, Dan Donovan, Donna Dukes, Leslie Hendricks, Gwendolyn Kingsberry, Danielle Kojic, Jodie Loverro, Sharon Medina, Daniel Rozzi, Lynn Stirrup

Virtual: Tiffany Ellis Butts, Jeff Cavalli, Erin Clancy-Balsamo, Yanet Cruz, Chris, Jessica Delorenzo, Mary Dennis, Eugenia Edwards, Paul Flannery, David Giles, Kelly Heisler, Janice, Elizabeth Huang, Elvis Marte, Marisa Osorio, Browne Smith, Neal Sofge, Carly Strelzik, Alexandre Turrer

Call to order

- Thank you to all!

Why I PTA (A Parent Report)

- Danielle Kojic, Musical Theater Delegate
- Helps understand your child's school experience
- Behind the scenes perspective
- Builds community & support arts partners
- PTA is awesome people

Principal Dyer

- Thank you for trusting me to lead the school
- We are now in the second quarter, there have been so many things so far -- first Community Meeting (on curriculum, Equity Team, kids with IEPs)
- AI Summit at District, PPAS had a delegate student; group of teachers will be working on how to use AI tools with the Asst. Principal
- This week is Gratitude Week, students made a quilt, hot chocolate at the Black Box; tomorrow encouraged to wear things from their culture so they can share with other students
- P-T Conferences tomorrow and Friday, usually low attendance on Friday so teachers are doing Professional Day
- Community Meeting December = Youth and Community Officers, students really like them

Treasurer Report

- Leslie Hendricks (Debbie is unavailable)
- Total assets ~\$150K
- Annual Fund projection is ~\$24K, this is about half of what we need -- if every family gave something, we could easily reach the goal
- Everything else is going as planned or better (shows, events, etc.)

Fundraising Report: Reach for the Stars Annual Fund

- Mary Dennis, VP Membership
- Without participation, things don't happen! We need 100% of families giving something, no matter how small
- Only 8% of school community contributes, Mary welcomes any suggestions for how to bolster this
- 100% of contributions go directly to arts departments to cover expenses that DOE budget doesn't
- If 70% of our community would give \$10/month, that would be the entire PTA budget -- and if those who can would do \$20, that would cover those families that simply don't have even \$10 to spare
- The Gala, pie sale, Slam, flowers, concessions etc. are the *hard* part -- it's laborious to do them, and the more the Annual Fund raises the less of the hard stuff we have to do
- "It is the responsibility of our school and arts partners to provide our students with a rigorous education focused in the performing arts and film" -- but without the Annual Fund, they don't get the costumes, sound and lighting, sets, field trips, professional talent, master classes, media exposure, and Lincoln Center performances
- Talk to Mary Dennis if you have ideas for the Annual Fund, or Donna Dukes for other fundraising
- Note that the senior parents are about to "graduate out" -- so step up!

SLT: C-30 Process Level One

- Lynn Stirrup
- This is assessment process for Assistant Vice Principal, and it's just starting out

Senior Delegate Report

- Melissa Silagyi and Leslie Hendricks
- November 27 is Seniorsgiving in the Dance Studio - Seniors bring a dish they made to share that represents them; Sterno and/or chafing pans are available
- Senior Portrait retakes January 10
- Order a Senior Class photo through Portraits USA
- Senior Trip planning underway
- Graduation date TBD, limit 4 tickets per family
- Senior Dues \$175, covers Graduation, Cap, Gown, Yearbook (don't buy one separately!) <https://donorbox.org/2025senior-dues>
- Prom on Friday, June 13th, \$150 per ticket, <https://donorbox.org/2025senior-prom>
- Make sure you're getting her emails!

Musical Theater / Drama Delegate Report

- Sharon Medina, Danielle Kojic, Jeff Cavalli
- Judas Iscariot review

- Stand Up Comedy elective students visited the set of *The View* - thanks to teaching artist Carla Young for coordinating!
- In The Heights is on stage this weekend! [Promotional video by cast]
- The two shows so far this year have already surpassed *all three* shows last year -- and we have two more to go!

Vocal Delegate Report

- Eugenia Edwards, Gwen Kingsberry
- December 13 = Winter Vocal Concert at Blessed Sacrament Church (152 W. 71st)
- Pre-order (only!) flowers from the PTA and pick them up on-site that night -- get 20% off if you order by November 30

Film Delegate

- New equipment is on the way! Department being very careful to get the right stuff
- Students used borrowed and personal equipment to record Judas Iscariot this weekend
- Note that some productions cannot be recorded due to licensing agreements -- even for archival purposes

Parent Coordinator's Report

- Teri Gindi
- Secret Project: Student-Led Tours, starting with the open houses last month
- Tour guides have memorized scripts, are welcoming and happy
- Tonight is official announcement of this very successful tour initiative

Adjournment