



Ps/Is 229

Parent-Teacher Association

Date, Time, and Location: September 19th, 2023 6:00 -7:05pm. In person cafeteria.

Meeting called to order by Co-Presidents Jennifer Jansen & Jaime Palazzi at 6:00 pm.

Attendance: A quorum was reached.

Minutes: The minutes of the 06/20/23 meeting were read and approved by Kathy Natal, seconded by Maria Mancino

Officers' Reports given by Jennifer Jansen and Jaime Palazzi

Introduce the Executive Board :

Jennifer Jansen Co Pres

Jaime Palazzi Co Pres

Mariia Maksymenko Secretary

Stephanie Stephan Treasurer

Board Members – Maya Zumbo and Rosina Lagana and Christine Minucci

Treasurers Reports The budget was read and accepted. Report attached.

Old Business was given by Co-President Jennifer Jansen

1. On June 22 nd , our class of 2023 graduated out of Dyker Golf Course. Thank you to all of the 8 th grade teachers and administration for making it a great day. We look forward to doing it again in June.
2. On June 26 th we held our 8 th grade Graduation Breakfast in the cafeteria. The kids had bagels and fruit and pastries and they were able to hang out one last time before leaving PS 229. Yearbooks were handed out that day as well so everyone was able to sign their friends books.

2023-2024
Executive Board
Officers

Co-Presidents:
Jaime Palazzi
Jennifer Jansen

Treasurer:
Stephanie Stephan

Secretary:
Maria Maksymenko

Administration

William Kirk
Principal

Assistant Principals:
Christopher Corbett
Kathleen Mai
Angela Tlapali

3. PTA Dues are being collected. You can either give cash or a check made out to the PTA of PS229. Thank you to everyone who has already submitted them. We ask that you please write clearly on the forms, we have many envelopes with names that we cannot read.

4. Senior dues are due by October 27 th . The money covers the cap and gown, t-shirt, diploma case, yearbook, pin, bag, and a video of the graduation ceremony. We have a videographer that films everything and about a week or so after the ceremony, you will be emailed a link to the video so you can download it. If you are ordering a senior hoodie, the money must be in by September 29 th .

5. The forms have gone out already for Senior Pictures which will take place this Friday, September 29th. If you have not done so, please have them returned as soon as possible. Pictures will be taken first thing Friday morning and we will be going back to taking one group outdoors picture. Please make sure your child is not wearing a hoodie or a tshirt with graphics on it.

6. Our Spiritwear fundraiser for school apparel is currently running, forms were sent home last week. If you have not received a form, please ask your child's teacher for one. It ends on October 6 th so please make sure your orders are in by then.

7. If you ordered one of the Go Gold for Pediatric Cancer tshirts, it should be arriving here around the 29 th . Thanks to everyone who purchased a shirt, we raised \$400 which goes directly to St. Jude. Friday September 29 th will be our next Spirit Day – Go Gold, and we ask that your child wear the tshirt, if you did not purchase the shirt, please wear something gold.

8. If you would still like to order the t-shirt for breast cancer, you have until September 20 th . All proceeds go to the Maimonides Breast Cancer Center.

9. Yesterday we held our annual Back to School Breakfast for teachers and staff.

New Business was given by Co-president Jaime Palazzi

1. Our PC Andrea Abrams asked me to pass this along: to all 5 th grade parents, there is nothing out for middle schools yet, and that includes access codes. She will let everyone know when information is released.

2. October 3 rd will kick off our Miss Chocolate fundraiser. Grades preK

through 5th will receive catalogs, middle school will be able to purchase online only.

If anyone in the middle school wants an actual catalog, you can let us know. Miss Chocolate sells a ton of things from chocolate to wrapping paper to household items. You can either ship to school which is free, or you can have it shipped to your home. It will end on October 24th. The student that raises the most money will receive a \$25 amazon gift card.

3. October 7th is our Grand Reopening Carnival and it will be held in the school yard. It is \$12 per child for advance tickets, \$15 at the gate. Only children have to pay and it is not just for 229 kids. You can bring siblings, friends, etc. We will be selling snacks and drinks, ranging between \$1 and \$3

4. I am not sure who is here because they received the email or because they got the agenda that was sent home, but if you are not receiving emails from us, please come up here at the end of the meeting and fill out a form. We received so many dues letters where we could not read the handwriting, so please make sure you are on our email list.

5. The PTA is no longer hosting the lost and found. I started it many years ago with good intentions and it just became too much. Please label your childrens items, coats, jackets, water bottles, lunchboxes. It's the only way they will get their stuff back at this point.

6. The Family Income Inquiry Forms need to be filled out! They are incredibly important because they determine the funding our school gets. A form needs to be filled out for each child you have in the school and the forms will only be used to help with our funding, nothing else. Please fill them Out!

7. We have been receiving a lot of forms that have not been filled out correctly. They are missing student names, parent names, email addresses we cannot make out. Please make sure to read the forms correctly before sending them in and please stop stapling money to the envelopes.

8. We do a lot of fundraisers throughout the year. From holiday sales to Nets and Yankees tickets, Disney on Ice, bake sales, etc. It is not mandatory to contribute to them, but participation is greatly appreciated.

9. One of our biggest fundraisers that lasts throughout the year is snack shack. Every year, our profit from snack shack is between \$22 and \$25k. Right outside those doors, every day at lunch, we sell chips and other snacks for \$1. This fundraiser contributes to roughly 90% of the money we spend on the school. It pays for dances for your children, the agendas they get in the beginning of the year, field day tshirts, books for classrooms, chromebook chargers that are either broken or lost. It covers the upfront costs of the book fair, the holiday sale and bake sale. Snack shack pays for costs not covered by students for graduation, prom and the 5 th grade party. Anything admin needs (like money for the media center) or teachers ask for, all comes from snack shack. If we only used the money made from other fundraisers, we would not be able to last the year. I tell you this because we need volunteers. Last year was not a good one, Jen and I were begging people constantly for help. We wound up having to shut down a week early because Jen and I couldn't continue to drop what we were doing to cover for people. If snack shack shuts down due to lack of help, the school will take a hit. So please consider volunteering. We need reliable people who will show up. Snack Shack is every day from 10:10 – 1:45 (restocking) and you can make your own schedule, coming in once a week or a few times a month. If you are interested, please come up and fill out a form after the Meeting.

10. Over the last few years, our EB has gone from 12 people to 6 people due to graduating out. Out of the 6 of us, 4 have either part time or full time jobs. We need more people on our board. We are looking for 5 people to join us. You will be expected to help set up and run events like dances, prom, graduation, book fair, picture day, etc., help out in the office when needed, work snack shack from time to time and attend EB meetings once a month. Jen and I have been doing this for 5 years and it's a lot and we need the help. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please see us after the meeting.

11. We understand that people are very busy, but we ask that you read the emails that you are sent. There is a lot of information that you will need throughout the year so check the school website daily. The PTA has a FB page (Pta of PS/IS 229) and an IG account (ps229pta). Remember, we don't just send out emails for ourselves, we also send out emails on behalf of the administration. Also, please pay attention to deadlines.

12. Jen and I answer our emails pretty quickly so we understand that there are times a parent will email us because they are not sure who to speak to at the school. We can always send you in the right direction, but please know that we are a PTA. We cannot help with teacher situations or school Policies.

13. If you have a question or a concern or a complaint, and it is a PTA related issue, you can always email us, but we do ask, if it is a complaint, please either come in to see us or call us. You lose context and tone in an email, so in person is better.

14. And lastly, there have been a lot of instances over the last few years where a parent will ask us to do things for only certain classes. As a PTA, we are here for every 229 student.

Important Dates

1. September 25 th no school for Yom Kippur
2. September 29 th 8 th grade picture day and Go Gold Spirit Day
3. October 3rd Miss Chocolate Starts
4. October 6 th – Spiritwear ends
5. October 7 th Welcome Back Carnival
6. October 9 th No school due to Italian Heritage/Indigenous Peoples Day
7. October 13 th Wear Pink for breast cancer awareness Spirit Day
8. October 17 th PTA meeting, in person

Principals report was given by Mr. Kirk

I. Based on 2021-22 data, PS/IS 229K was designated by New York State as a school designated for Local Support and Improvement (LSI) for the 2022-23 school year.

The designation "Good Standing" had been changed to "Local Support and Improvement (LSI)," to recognize that all schools, even higher performing schools, are in a continuous improvement mode and can benefit from local support from their districts to meet students' differentiated needs. LSI is the best accountability status currently available.

Spring 2022
Proficiency Levels (3+4)

Spring 2023*
Proficiency Levels (3+4)

ELA 72%

↑

Math 66%

↑

*The Spring 2023 NYS ELA and Math Tests were based on the Next Generation Learning Standards.

II. Curriculum and Learning

A. District 20 is one of the districts that is taking part in Phase 1 of the NYC READS initiative this year.

As such, PS/IS 229 will be improving on our use of the Into Reading and Into Literature programs to ensure EVERY STUDENT IS A CONFIDENT READER.

B. DOE Academic Screeners for Reading and Math are required for all K-8 students.

- We will be using Acadience for K-2 Reading.

- We will be using i-Ready for 3-8 Reading.
- We will be using i-Ready for K-8 Math.
- The BOY Assessment Window is expected to be September 18th - 29th.

C. PS/IS 229K will be following our assessment calendar that was developed jointly with District 20, to ensure students are making adequate progress.

D. Curricular Resources used for the content areas:

- Really Great Reading for Grades K-2 foundational literacy skills
- Into Reading for ELA in grades K-5 and Into Literature for ELA in grades 6-8
- enVisionMath 2.0 for Grades K-8 mathematics
- Passport and Civics for All for social studies
- Amplify for science
- Miller & Levine BIOLOGY for our Grade 8 Living Environment class

E. The Dual Language (Mandarin-English) kindergarten class currently has 20 students who are learning the content in both English AND Mandarin. It will grow each year (first grade AND kindergarten next year).

This two-way model will be taught approximately 50% of the time in English and 50% in Mandarin, allowing ENL students to become proficient in English and already English-proficient students to master Mandarin. Research shows that dual language students perform at or above grade level in reading and math by 5th to 7th grade, if not sooner.

F. We will begin to introduce accelerated and enrichment opportunities in our NEW Digital Media & Journalism program this fall, which will include creating a studio-like space in the school which will allow for audio/video interviewing, camera work, editing, and podcasting.

III. Library Renovation & Upgrade project

A. The design phase is nearly completed. The project will go out for bids shortly (maybe by December).

If the bids fall within the budget parameters, the project will be awarded as is. A 2024 start would become likely.

IV. Health & Safety Protocols for this year (currently)

- Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate for 5 days and can return to school on day 6 if they have no symptoms or symptoms are improving. They must wear mask until day 10 after symptom onset or date of positive test, whichever is earlier.
- Students and staff should stay home if they show any symptoms of COVID-19 or other illnesses and get tested for COVID-19. Vaccination is considered the best way to reduce COVID-19 risk.
- At home tests will be provided if requested.

V. Visitor Procedures

A parent/guardian will be required to sign in at the Security Desk. The School Safety Agent will need to see a photo ID in order for the visitor to receive a building pass. They will then be directed to our Parent Coordinator, Ms. Andrea Abrams (room 123). The Parent Coordinator will determine if the person(s) have an appointment. If they do, she will notify the staff member or administrator. If they do not have a scheduled appointment, she will work to answer their question/concern or she will take their contact information to schedule an appointment for them.

* Vendors, technicians, other DOE employees are in fact visitors to the building and should in fact be issued a building pass after presenting valid ID.

* Parents/guardians coming to pick up a sick child from nurse or to sign out children early should show ID and sign in, but do not need a pass. They should be directed to the main office.

* We will pause early sign-out of students at 1:45 PM (barring a true emergency), in order to maintain safety approaching dismissal time.

VI. PS/IS 229K Grand Reopening and PTA Welcome Back Carnival on Saturday, October 7th

A. All families of current students and alumni, along with retired staff members are invited to join us this day for the following:

10:00-10:30AM

Rededication of the grounds and newly planted trees in honor of students and staff we lost some time ago and more recently.

10:30-11:00 AM

Guided tours of the "new" building and grounds.

11:00-3:00 PM

PTA's Welcome Back Carnival (first time since fall of 2019) in schoolyard

AP Cuthill

- Enrichment, Senior Activities, etc.

AP Tipaldi

- Monitors, Information Packets, etc.

AP Mui

- Technology collection and distribution, etc.

Questions were answered.

Meeting Adjourned 7:25pm. Mariia Maksymenko, Secretary

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