



Ps/Is 229

## Parent-Teacher Association

Date, Time, and Location: November 21st, 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 10/17/23 meeting were read and approved by Kathy

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

### **Old Business was given by Co-President Jennifer Jansen**

1. On October 21 st we had the first Family Art Workshop and we had the second workshop on November 11 th . Both were very successful. The third one will be held in December. We will be holding a vote at the next PTA meeting to add another three workshops to our budget.
2. The Miss Chocolate fundraiser ended on October 24 th thank you very much to everyone who contributed, we raised \$1,228. And a special thank you to Aubree Mak who won her class, K-1, a pizza party for bringing in the most money, \$517.
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.
4. School pictures were held on October 22 nd and 23 rd . Those pictures will be back next week. Retakes will be December 11 th . If you want your child to

2023-2024  
Executive Board  
Officers

Co-Presidents:  
Jaime Palazzi  
Jennifer Jansen

Treasurer:  
Stephanie Stephen

Secretary:  
Maria Makymenko

Administration  
William Kirk  
Principal

Assistant Principals:  
Christopher Cuthill  
Kathleen Mai  
Angelo Tizabi

retake their pictures, you must send the entire package back as soon as possible so we can plan accordingly. If your child was absent on picture day, this is also the day they get their pictures taken.

5. October 26<sup>th</sup> was our Halloween Dance. It went great, the kids had a blast! Thank you to the parents who volunteered and all of the teachers who volunteered as well. I believe we had about 14-15 teacher chaperones.

6. Senior dues were due on October 27<sup>th</sup>. 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 have not submitted the payment, please do so as soon as possible.

7. On October 31<sup>st</sup> we had our annual walk a thon and it was so much fun! We raised \$4,057 out of the \$8,400 needed for the I-ready program. The PTA picked up the rest of the cost. Congratulations to Joanna Zhang in 4-4 for bringing in the most money, \$300, and congratulations to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade who raised \$1,025 and won the pizza parties. A special thank you to Joe Palazzi who ran around in a Sully costume for an hour and a half.

8. 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents, the prom letters have gone out the deadline is getting closer. We have a limited amount of tickets. If your child wants to go and has not paid yet, please get those requests in as we have a limited number of tickets. The deadline is December 15<sup>th</sup>.

9. We have sold out of Radio City tickets, thank you to anyone who purchased them, have a great time at the show!

10. Cutest Cookie forms have been sent home and the deadline is December 8<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in them, please make sure you get the forms in, they cannot accept any orders past the deadline.

11. November 16<sup>th</sup> was the annual NIA PTA Friends Giving Thanks potluck and we had a huge turnout! For context, last year we had 37 people, this year we had over 200 rsvp's and about 175 people came. Thank you to everyone who took the time to make something or buy something and bring it in to share with everyone. Our next event will be a dessert night in February and

we hope we have as good a turnout as we did last week.

12. The annual Veteran's day Drive ended last week and Mr. Goldman will be bringing all of the items donated to the VA. Thank you so much to everyone who brought in donations.

13. We need only 20 more Family Income Inquiry forms so please get those in.

### **New Business was given by Co-president Jaime Palazzi**

1. December 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> we will be holding our annual Holiday Sale during all lunch periods in the cafeteria. We will be selling all kinds of items from toys to jewelry, wallets, ornaments, keychains, houseware items, etc. We do this every year, the kids love it. Jen and I will be sitting down next week to go over all of the pricing but it's usually in the range of \$1-\$10. I will send out an update next week as soon as we finalize everything.

2. Picture retakes are on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> .

3. Our next dance will be on December 15<sup>th</sup> , it is the Holiday PJ Dance Party and it's for grades PreK – 2<sup>nd</sup> . The deadline is December 7<sup>th</sup> and the tickets are limited so please get in your requests sooner rather than later. If your child is in NIA, they cannot attend that day. They must get picked up at dismissal and then brought back at 3 for the dance. This dance is the only dance where every single student attending has a chaperone. Last year, we had students running all over and we were afraid they were going to hurt. I had to stop the dance twice to ask parents to get their kids off the stage even though Mr. Kirk and I had put up barricades. We had brand new decorations destroyed and we had items stolen. Again, every student had a chaperone. We cannot have that happen again this year. If you are attending, please keep an eye on your child.

4. Every dollar that the PTA spends, whether its for new chromebooks or a \$2 pack of pens for our office, comes from money that we worked hard to fundraise, that you parents worked hard to fundraise. When things are stolen from us, like they were at the last holiday dance and more recently at the potluck, we now have to spend more money to replace those items. So if you see something, please say something.

5. On December 1 st , we will once again team up with NIA and Mr. Goldman's Community Service Group to hold our Toy Donation Drive. Letters with all of the information will be going out sometime next week. Until December 20 th , we will be collecting toys for children ages 2-15 who are in the hospital. There will be a donation box by the elevators where you can drop unwrapped, new toys to be donated.

6. We have another Yankees fundraiser coming up. The game is for May 19 th against the White Sox, working on the details now but I will have something out soon so if you want to buy tickets for someone as a gift, you can do so. I do know that every ticket comes with a new yankees bag and a \$15 meal voucher that can be used at any food stand instead of just getting hotdogs.

7. Jennifer and I have been having an ongoing issue that has gotten worse over the last few years and it needs to be discussed. When we have an event or fundraiser coming up, we send home forms. Then we email those forms home. Jen sends out weekly reminders every weekend where she sends out those forms again. We also send out reminders leading up to that event. But we are still getting too many forms in past deadline so I just want to quickly explain the other side of it and the effect it has. On picture day, when you send in the forms day of, those forms need to be checked, and coded with a sticker for the photographers. If those forms are filled out wrong, Jen now has to call or email the parent and then wait for a response. That holds up entire classes from going back to class. Every year we have a big issue with the Halloween Dance. I sent out so many reminders and still, days after deadline, I'm getting emails and phone calls asking for tickets. I always hear "It's just one ticket". It is never just one ticket! This last dance, we had 24 or 25 requests past deadline, some coming in an hour before the actual dance. I cannot do for one what I cannot do for all. 24 more kids at the last minute is 3 more tables which means going in and moving the 15 tables already set to accommodate more. It means 24 more goody bags that we did not have. It means ordering more pizza at the very last minute when we have already finalized that order three days prior. It means not enough donuts for everyone as they were ordered on a deadline as well. And I want to be very clear, it is a very small amount of people who do this, but some parents, when I tell them I cannot give them a ticket, get so rude and say awful things to us. I should not have to ask a member of admin to stand at the door with me because a parent has threatened to show up and cause a scene. Please stay

on top of deadlines.

### **Important Dates**

1. November 23rd and 24th no school for Thanksgiving
2. December 1 st is our next ice cream day
3. December 4-6 is our Holiday Sale
4. December 11 th is picture retake day
5. December 15 th is the Holiday PJ Dance and also our next spirit day, Crazy Holiday Sweater day
6. December 19 th is our next PTA meeting

### **Principals report was given by Mr. Kirk**

Thank you to all of the families and staff that came to last Thursday's PTA/NIA Family Giving Thanks dinner!!!

There was certainly plenty of delicious dishes and desserts for all to try. The best part of course was seeing the smiles on the children's faces!

I want to recognize PS/IS 229 parent, Meifang Chen. Not only was Ms. Chen elected to a seat on the District 20 Community Education Council, she was also voted to be the CEC's treasurer. A belated congratulations on both accomplishments go out to Ms. Chen!!!

### **We are again experiencing safety concerns with Double-Parking**

- This is a situation that can impact the safety of children, parents, and community members alike. As vehicles are trying to navigate the streets with double-parked

cars (sometimes on both sides) and buses coming & going, the risk of someone being hit increases greatly.

- I must continue to remind all families that at arrival and dismissal, we ask that you find the closest legal parking spot and walk your child/children to or from the car. We realize this is a little less convenient, but we do this to keep all children and families safe. In addition, this may prevent a ticket for \$150. We have handed out warning notes. The elected officials have made it clear that they will pressure the local precincts to hand out tickets.

### **The High School Application process is open.**

- The deadline for submitting the high school application is December 1st.
- The preferred method to apply is online with MySchools.nyc at:  
<https://myschools.nyc/>
- If an 8th grader or their parent have questions, you can speak with one of our guidance counselors, Ms. Kmec or Ms. Fagan.
- High School Offer release is scheduled for March 7, 2024.

### **The Middle School Application process is open now through December 8th.**

- The preferred method to apply is online with MySchools.nyc. If you don't already have one, you can create an account at:  
<https://myschools.nyc/en/account/create-account/>
- If you have questions, you or your parent can speak with Ms. Abrams, our parent coordinator.
- Middle School Offer release is scheduled for April 3, 2024.

### **Kindergarten (including Gifted & Talented) Admissions**

- Kindergarten and Kindergarten G&T Application will open on December 5, 2023 and closes on January 19, 2024.
- Kindergarten and Kindergarten G&T Offer release is scheduled for March 27, 2024

## **Pre-K Admissions**

- Pre-K Application will open on January 10, 2024 and closes on March 1, 2024. Pre-K Offer release is scheduled for May 14, 2024.

## **Mid-Year Adjustments to Schools' 2023-24 Budgets**

- New York City will no longer be "holding schools harmless from mid-year adjustments based on enrollment declines greater than projections."
- Because our enrollment is a bit higher than projected for this year, we just received our first round of additional funding (75%). The remaining 25% should come in January.

This should allow us to provide some additional support for students who need it and enrichment opportunities for students as well.

## **Winter Concert**

- Our chorus groups along with our band and orchestra groups will perform the evening of Wednesday,

AP Cuthill, AP Mui, and AP Tipaldi

- Additional items of note

**Questions were answered.**

**Citizens of the month were announced and congratulated**

**Meeting Adjourned 7:05pm. Mariia Maksymenko, Secretary**

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