



Ps/Is 229

Parent-Teacher Association

Date, Time, and Location: September 9th, 2024 6:00 -7:15pm. Cafeteria

Meeting called to order by President Jaime Palazzi at 6:00 pm.

Attendance: A quorum was reached.

Minutes: The minutes of the 06/11/24 meeting were read and approved by Jennifer Jansen and Stephanie Stefan.

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

Welcome to the first PTA meeting of the year. For all the new parents and guardians, I'm just going to explain how we run our meetings. I will read the old business and the new business and then Mr. Kirk will give his Principal's Report and then after that he will do Citizen of the Month which will start next month.

After that, if anyone has any questions you can raise your hand and ask them.

Today, because we have an expedited election, that will come first.

As many of you know, PS 229 has been given Title 1 status. 10% of the money, which is a little over \$10,000, will be used for Parent Involvement. Tonight we need to fill two positions, Title 1 Chair and Co-Chair. In the past we would also select a Parent Advisory Committee but since PTA meetings are now combined with Title 1 meetings, all the parents are PAC. The responsibilities of the Chairperson include, but are not limited to:

Working with the parents and the school on developing a plan to spend the 1% of the Title 1 allocation for parent involvement.

You will facilitate and plan workshops and events for parent involvement.

You must attend SLT meetings, every third Thursday at 2:30 in school.

You must attend DPAC meetings every last Thursday of the month at 6pm on zoom.

2024-2025
Executive Board
Officers

President
Jaime Palazzi

Treasurer
Jennifer Jansen

Secretary
Maria Makymenko

Administration

William Kirk
Principal

Assistant Principals
Christopher Cusick
Kathleen Mai
Angelo Tizabi

You must speak at every PTA meeting, which will be your DPAC meeting, updating families on current financials and current/future events. The Co-Chair, or Alternate, will be responsible for the above when the Chair cannot make a meeting or event.

Any parent or guardian can run for a seat. Is there anyone who would like to nominate themselves for Title 1 Chair? Co-Chair?

Collect names, write them on poster board, etc.

I will hand out blank ballots. Please write down one name under Title 1 chair and one name under Co-Chair. I will collect the ballots and count them after I read my part of the PTA meeting.

Result: Jessica O'Mahoney-Schwartz ran for Chair uncontested. Approved and seconded by Maria Mancino and Christa Baiada. Sindy Chen ran uncontested for

Co-Chair. Approved and seconded by Maria Mancino and Angela Morris.

Old Business was given President Jaime Palazzi

1. Introduce the Executive Board:

- Jaime Palazzi - President
- Jennifer Jansen - Treasurer
- Mariia Maksymenko - Secretary
- Board Members – Stephanie Stefan, Joyce Chan-Lai and Julianne Noyola

2. On June 13 th we held our 5 th Grade Celebration. It took place in the schoolyard and we had a dj and McDonalds and snacks. The kids had a great time and we cant wait to do it again next June.

3. June 18 th was the 8 th grade breakfast in the cafeteria. The had bagels and fruit and snacks and they were able to have their friends sign their yearbooks. We also handed out their caps and gowns.

4. On June 21st, our class of 2024 graduated out of Dyker Golf Course. Thank you to all of the 8 th grade teachers and administration for making it a great Day.

5. 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.

6. Senior dues are due by October 25 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 October 31 st , the same goes if you want to order a ring.

7. The forms have gone out already for Senior Pictures which will take place this Friday, September 27th. If you have not done so, please have them returned as soon as possible. Pictures will be taken first thing Friday morning and there will also be a big group shot. Please make sure your child is not wearing a hoodie or a tshirt with graphics on it.

8. 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 4 th so please make sure your orders are in by then, it is online only.

9. Yesterday September 8th we held our annual Back to School Breakfast for teachers and staff. Snack Shack also started yesterday.

New Business was given by president Jaime Palazzi

1. This Thursday is Meet the Teacher Night from 4:30-6:30. The PTA will have a table by security to help direct parents and to answer any questions you have for us.

2. September 27 th is Senior Picture day and it is also our next Spirit Day: Go Gold for Childhood Cancer. We ask that students wear something gold.

3. October 1st will kick off our Miss Chocolate fundraiser. Grades preK through 5 th 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 22nd. The student that raises the most money will receive a \$25 amazon gift card

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.

5. It has been two years, but the PTA is no longer hosting the lost and found. Please label your childrens items, coats, jackets, water bottles, lunchboxes. It's the only way they will get their stuff back at this point. We have a yearlong fundraiser through Mabel's Labels, I will send out the information tonight or tomorrow.

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! Because of people responding to those forms, we achieved Title 1 status. Lets make sure we keep that status!

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, books for classrooms, chromebook chargers that are either broken or lost. It covers the upfront costs of the book fair, the holiday sale, dances, etc. 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 another year where Jen and I were begging people constantly for help. We wound up having to shut down a week early, again, 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 5 people due to graduating out. Out of the 5 of us, 4 have either part time or full time jobs. We need more people on our board to head some committees. 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. I have been doing this for 7 years, and I have been co-president or president for 6 of those years and it's a lot and we need the help. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please see me after the meeting.

11. We understand that people are busy as beavers, 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. We send home backpacked papers, I post things on FB, I send out reminders every weekend which is a courtesy. Some deadlines are in place by whatever fundraising company we are using and we cant do anything about it. The deadlines we set for ourselves are in place because we need to pick up items or make favor bags or set up all of the tables and chairs. It is a huge and unfair inconvenience to me and the volunteers to have to stop and change things because someone forgot to send a form in. Deadlines are Deadlines.

12. The easiest way to get in touch with us is to email. However, the last few years it was me and Jen answering emails and this year it's just me. I try to get to emails as quickly as I can, but sometimes I need to get the correct information first, or I'm with my family. So please be patient, I will respond as soon as I can.

13. The PTA is just the PTA. We are not in charge of school policies, we cannot help with student accounts, or issues with admin or teachers. We have nothing to do with NIA. You can absolutely email us with a question or concern and we can steer you in the right direction, but that is all we can do.

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.

Principals report was given by Mr. Kirk

Mr. Kirk gave a very detailed presentation of the results of the Spring 2024 NYS ELA and Math Tests grade by grade.

New teachers joining PS/IS 229k staff for 2024-25 were introduced.

Updates on Capital Projects

- Library upgrade - The space is completed, including the NEW Audio/Video/Podcasting studio. We are awaiting the furniture and technology for the project to be completed.
- Multi-Purpose Room renovation - The stage was refurbished, and the floor was replaced. Wrong color padding for the front of the stage was delivered. Blue to be delivered and installed. We are awaiting the upgrade to the lighting and sound system.

Our REQUIRED Title I Parent Meeting (annually) will take place following the PTA meeting on October 15th.

AP Cuthill, AP Mui, and AP Tipaldi

- **Additional items of note**

Questions were answered.

Meeting Adjourned 7:15pm. Mariia Maksymenko, Secretary

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