



Parents Association of P.S. 196Q
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Minutes of PA Meeting – January 17, 2017

Opening: Stephanie Cooper started the meeting at 7:34 PM The meeting was held in the lunch room. Meridith Kabacki (Co-President), Stephanie Cooper (Co-President), Michelle Kiliski (Co-Vice President), Yvonne Venezia (Treasurer), Karen Solomon (Co-Secretary), Heather Brown (Co-Secretary).

Blimie Berkowitz (Assistant Principal, IA), Ellen Maurer (Parent Coordinator), Maria Romero (After School Director) attended.

Allyssa P. accepted the December 2016 minutes: Deepali seconded the motion. Minutes approved by unanimous vote.

Principal's Report – given by Ms. Koatz

- Parent/ Guardian Feedback Form will be distributed at the January Fun Friday event.
- Lost and Found – please claim your child's items, the school has arranged to donate unclaimed clothing items. Items will be picked up next week.
- PS 196 has a new Creed. It will be published in the upcoming parent newsletter.
- Our school also has a new friendship initiative. A tree with leaves of friendship where children can write kind words will be displayed in the school.
- Mindfulness Training for 3, 4, and 5 grades will begin soon. The PA is sponsoring the series. Instructors from Monkey Do will visit the school each week. The training will give children techniques to reduce stress during the ELA and Math tests.
- Registration for Kindergarten has ended.
- Progress Reports will be distributed on January 27, 2017.

- Ridgewood Savings Bus – will visit Prek, K and 1st grades.

Parent Coordinator's Report – Ms. Ellen Maurer

Learning Environment Surveys will be given out at Parent Teacher Conferences. Class Parents / Clockers will assist by having parents complete them during p/t conferences. Last year our school had a return rate of 88%. Our goal this year is to achieve an over 90% return rate. Classes that achieve 100% will have a pizza party!

Afterschool Report – Ms. Maria Romero

Spring Registration has begun.

If a class is not listed on the website it is already full.

Enrollment is going well.

New Class Offering – Fun with Science implemented by Ms. Hellman. This afterschool program focuses on STEM activities.

February Holiday Camp – will run if there is enough interest and registration.

Treasurer's Report

Please see report generated by the treasurer

SLT Report

The topic of Candy Grams was raised at SLT. While this fundraiser is successful, there are parent concerns around children that do not receive a candy gram.

Assistant Principal search beginning. Ms. Blimie Berkowitz is the interim AP at PS 196. Teachers, parents and administrators will be on the interview panel. 5 candidates will be selected as finalists.

Active Recess has started during lunch periods. There are indoor and outdoor activities that children can opt in or out of or choose to participate in free play.

5th Grade Report

Wall of Love – fundraiser where children can write what they love on a paper heart and place it on the wall. Each heart is \$1 donation.

Wellness

Ms. Bronstein is working with the children on Mighty Milers during gym class. Children are encouraged to do laps around the gym at the beginning of each class. Some 4th graders have achieved 5 miles and received a prize of a backpack.

Friday, February 3rd Compassionate Communication Workshop has been planned for parents. Strategies and tools will be discussed to encourage better communication between parents and children.

School Fundraisers

Valentine's Day Dance will take place Saturday, February 11, 2017 from 4 – 7 PM. The PA requests \$4000 to host the Valentines' Day Dance. A unanimous vote of 23 parents present at the meeting approved spending \$4000 for the event.

Chee Burger Chee Burger will donate 15% of checks from Friday – Sunday. When families let the restaurant know they are from PS 196, the restaurant will give the school a portion of sales during the allocated week.

Our previous restaurant fundraiser at Chipotle raised \$380. Our next restaurant will be Shake Shack.

Proposed School Fundraisers

Mother's Day Plant Sale

Bingo Night

Smellcils (smelly pencils)

Closing: _____ Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM