

September 19, 2019 In: 6:35 Out: 7:45

Welcome from PTA President, Amy Weintraub

Principal's Update, Ms. Eve:

- To help mitigate the large class sizes in the 2nd grade classrooms (32 children each), we have hired 2 substitute teachers, and are interviewing a 3rd. One is full time, the other two are part-time. Parents raised questions about how this co-teaching will work. Answer: the classroom teachers will decide how best they can utilize the extra help. These subs are former/retired teachers, one with literacy specialty. Ms. Eve suggested that parents meet directly with their child's teacher to discuss further.
- Sarah Green, School Counselor, will be holding some parent workshops this year. She has already helped some teachers incorporate the social-emotional "Ruler" program, which helps students identify and regulate their feelings, and the "Peace Path" program for conflict resolution. These complement the "Responsive Classrooms" strategy many teachers already have in place.
- We are a No Place For Hate school. The Diversity Committee is responsible for the NPFH Initiative, and sponsors a Book Club, workshops, and organizes other supporting events throughout the year.
- Climate Strike Week is next week, and PS107 has been inspired by Greta Thunberg's work on climate change. The teachers and administration are working on an event for this which will most likely take place next Friday. Tomorrow, children who will attend the Climate March in Manhattan will receive an excused absence.
- Latest on the building work: lead and asbestos abatement happened this summer; work is continuing, with an estimated completion date of July 2020.
- Curriculum night is Sep 25; principal gave an overview. A flyer and email went out with the details re: time, classrooms, and cluster teachers.
- Electronics Policy overview
- Homework Policy sheet has already been sent in folders

Parent Coordinator Pamela's Update: Given by Amy in Pamela's absence.

- Blue Cards
- Lunch Forms
- Lice re-checks tomorrow

Amy's PTA Update:

- Board Introduction
- New Spending Initiatives--Science; helping with paying for the 2 new support teachers (2nd grade)
- Annual Fund This year's goal: \$250K (last year we raised \$150K). So far we are at \$64K

- Questions from parents about budget. Answer: We will have the full budget review at next meeting. We are working toward more transparency and ease, and have moved all PTA/Annual Fund to Quickbooks. Per Amy: Questions about spending and programs will be discussed at October's meeting.

SLT Update, Meg:

- Mornings in the big yard are very full and energetic. The school needs parent volunteers from 7:45 until school starts.
- Lunch PALS also needs volunteers.
- Officer at Armory crossing is now there every day for our PE crossings.

Committees and Events overview: More information and available openings on Konstella if you'd like to get involved!

Movie Night: Orson is looking for volunteers

Fall Festival: October 19th!

- Need face painter. Emily volunteered.

Photo Day is also a PTA fundraiser. New photographer this year: Stoming Ground.

Progressive Dinner: November 2nd! Still need hosts.

Diversity Committee: Sompon Oerlemans, Chair, is absent tonight. This year's theme: Cultivating Empathy.

Afterschool: Miss Sandy absent tonight. Becky Huthinson is on the board, and present, for any questions.

Harvest Day: No date yet

Arts Committee

4th & 5th Grade Book club: Shelly Auster co-lead, present. Coming up at 7:30-8:20 a.m. Oct 3.

Community Outreach: Emily Hager, present. Our sister school is PS 169 in Sunset Park. This year, we are hoping to organize more joint events, to bring our students together. Two events will be a clean up effort and a clothing swap.