

9/21/23

Community Mtg Minutes

General Reminders, Mike Lew

- Keep sidewalks as clear as possible during drop off
- Curriculum night tonight
- Vote held for community outreach co-chair, Jeanne Schwartz; vote approved

Principals update, Ms. Joanna

- Curriculum shifts this year - adopting Science of Reading (see newsletter), Wit + Wisdom
- We have a new Recess Coach, Coach Destiny from Asphalt Green, Mon-Thurs, who leads children in organized, collaborative games; participation is optional
- School budget is very tight, new curriculum adoption is very expensive
- Donations to PTA are so important! Your PTA donations support:
 - Art & Music
 - Residencies
 - Teaching assistant
 - Teacher grants
 - Recess coach
 - And much more
- Operoo is the DOE approved platform for all school communications
 - Watch out for Ms. Joanna's Wednesday Weekly Newsletter, sent each Wed via Operoo
 - Konstella is still used by the PTA and other communications; we are trying to get Konstella approved by the DOE for all school communications
- Your first point of contact is always your child's teacher or specialty teacher, please be judicious in contacting teachers as they have limited time
- Nadia Benlarbi, Parent Coordinator is contact for schoolwide issues; urgent issues please call main office
- Review the new parent handbook
- Please be mindful of your dog at pickup; better to leave at home if possible as they can get in the way and it's been reported some children are afraid of dogs

Afterschool update, Ms. Pamela

- 6 crickets is our afterschool communications platform and the place to make any changes related to afterschool
- Staff rotates so the staff at pickup points can change every day; anyone picking up your child needs to be noted in 6 crickets as an approved pick up person
- If you want to make change of membership type email Pamela by the 1st of the month
- If want to change any specialty programs email Kate Gitnick
 - there may be some specialty programs that have space
- If your child will not attend afterschool on a particular day, let their teacher know. Or if they are attending on a day they don't normally attend, please call the office

- Afterschool will not pull children out of programs during program time. If you need to pick up your child early, contact Pamela in advance; you can pick up your child before their program time or after, but not during. Pamela's phone: Google voice 347-994-9555
- Homework hall is timed quiet time for children to work on their homework (it is not tutoring); if you prefer your child do their homework at home or some portion thereof, contact Pamela via email
- Children will never be forced by staff to do homework at afterschool; a note will be sent home in folder if child does not want to do homework
- If child has a 2 hour specialty program, they will not have homework time that day
- Looking to add more programs for kindergarten; there is greater number of kindergarteners enrolled in afterschool this year than previous years

Annual fund update, Nisha

- Annual Fund is comprised of direct donations to PTA (not any other type of fundraising event held throughout the year)
- This years goal is \$210K, which all goes to fill budget gaps; totally separate from all other fundraising events
 - 10% to goal as of today
- Donations vary widely, range from \$10-over \$5K
- Check with your company for matching gift campaigns
- Annual Fund supports art, music, science, residencies, mural, TA, and more
- Give thru Konstella; External link for friends and family or check
- Donations of stock are now available via third party: www.donatestock.com → Type PS107 or go to dedicated link and konstella:
<https://donatestock.com/public-school-107-parent-teacher-association-inc>

Community Outreach update, Jeanne

- PS 124 is new sister school, in great need of support and every day items; mutual aid, individual support within community
- Title 1; 43% of students live in temporary housing
- 9% and growing are newly arrived migrants
- Dual language school

DEI Committee update, Christine

- Goal is to Integrate DEI into all events
- Brainstorm what want to see in committee
- Hispanic heritage month - check out posters around school
- Working on new newsletter and fundraising event

Special Education Committee update, Ginny, Christina Lowe

- Representing all neuro diverse learning students
- First meeting Oct 11 @ 1pm zoom
- Hosting fall fest table

AAPI committee, Sowoon Song

- Social group and community building for AAPI families
- Share culture in variety of ways, casual social gatherings
- Will host gatherings throughout the year

Volunteer needs

- Craft fair
- Math Magic - weekly Wed morning
- Crystal Park - social media; will send calendar, IG

Fall Festival update, Lisa and Sarah

- Saturday Oct 14 from 12-4pm
- Block party + fundraiser
- Activities: inflatables, arts, crafts, games, Music, food, bake sale, chili contest, pie contest
- Parent volunteers needed
- Not limited to school, invite friends and neighbors
- \$4,200 in sponsorships received so far

Stoop Crawl, Alyse

- Fri Oct 22nd - Bar crawl thru ps 107 families, assigned to 3 homes, mix and mingle with other PS 107 families. Will sell out.
- Need more hosts
- Allie Merriam

Spring Gala & Auction,

- Spring date TBD
- Biggest fundraiser of the year (\$50K last year)
- Committee and Volunteers needed

Green Team, Kajal

- Focus on sustainability
- For PTA events i.e. eliminating plastic water bottles
- First committee mtg Oct 3, if interested in joining contact Kajal
- Mr. Ed teacher interested to work on lunch waste