

Hybrid - PS 31 PTA Meeting - Friday, January 24 ,2025 8:20AM - 9:20AM
Meeting Agenda/Notes

PTA Executive Board Members Present

Francoise Olivas, CO-President

Amy Yip-Ng , Treasurer

Natalie Gabriel, Board Member

School Update - Principal Scarlato

- We are excited to share that the art teacher will be available four days a week, while the culinary program will run two days a week. The kids really enjoy participating in culinary classes
- Someone Special Dance: February 7th - Snacks will be available to purchase and there will be music for entertainment
- ELA Test for Grades 3-5 Scheduled April 11th & April 12th - Grades 4 & 5 will take the test online with no exemptions.
- School Contest - "Play Ground of Their Dreams"

Green Wellness Update from Ms. Lipponer

- Sweet Green is contributing a donation worth \$1000 - \$1200 in materials, benefiting two schools in Greenpoint. We are looking into creating a seeds grow bed for classrooms and possibly incorporating another hydroponic setup for flowers and seeds. There's also interest in a small-scale aquaponics system, which would include fish.

A Word from Miss Kara - Parent Coordinator

- First Week of February Music show
- February 5th - We will celebrate World Read Aloud Day with a workshop. K-1 will partner with the library for a small craft and read-aloud session
- February 10th - Career Week - Parents have expressed interest in visiting classrooms, which we will plan during Career Week, where some parents will discuss their professions. Each class will hear from at least two parents in the morning
- Gallery Walk will take place during Career Week - Parents can RSVP for the Gallery Walk
- Next PTA Meeting February 14th
- Spirit Week - February 14th - Wear Pink & Red
- February Break - Feb 17th - Feb 21st
- Parent Teacher Conference - March 6th, a half-day as per DOE. Teachers have voted for no school on this day. PS 31 will be closed
- Book Nook - Tuesdays & Fridays - PTA Merch available
- Today is the Last day for Kindergarten Applications

Motion to Approve November Meeting Notes

The notes from the December meeting have been approved.

- First Motion: Shannon Ritchey
- Second Motion: Cindy Sink

Financial Literacy Workshop - Francoise Olivas, CO-President

- The Financial Literacy workshop was held yesterday and was a success . The workshop consisted of finding ways to engage children in understanding finances , sharing valuable tips and tricks. This initiative is part of the Title 1 program

Kids Spring party & Gala Fundraiser Planning - Francoise Olivas, CO-President

- PTA would like to have two separate Spring parties
- Kids Party - March 21st - We are open to suggestions on venues
- The Adult Party - May 16th - TBD

Parent Suggestions

- No theme for the adults party - Formal with the option of semi-formal

Potluck Update - Francoise Olivas, CO-President

- The Potluck has been rescheduled to March

Budget & Finance Review - Amy Yip-Ng , Treasurer

- We started at \$171,500 at the beginning of the year we are now at \$194,117

Field Trips

- The PTA funds will provide \$20 per student for field trips, which teachers select in alignment with the curriculum

Chess Update

- Kindergarten students received chess boards last week, and a new tournament is scheduled in Saratoga for March 8th

Green Wellness Initiative

- There have been many challenges in getting parents to attend meetings or participate in Green Thumb Thursdays.

Suggestions for Engagement

- Kara suggested implementing an RSVP system.
- Francoise Olivas proposed a book club where parents would read on their own time and then gather to discuss it, focusing on environmental topics to increase engagement
- Katie noted that parents interested in gardening might not attend Green Wellness Meetings . Suggestions to create more targeted meetings - Specific agendas
- Ms. Gallo - Suggestion to clearly outline the agenda for the Green Wellness meeting

- Francoise Olivas proposed including a segment on Green Wellness during the PTA Meetings

Q & A

Meeting Notes 1/24/25
Kayla Santos-Cobo & Heather Milburn, Co-Secretaries

