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**Minutes**

**Bridge Prep Family Association October 2023 Meeting**

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**Date and Time:**

Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 6:30 PM

**Zoom Video**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3304975596?pwd=L0U3a1JBKzFDNjhDNW1LZEk5aFJNQT09>

Meeting ID: 330 497 5596

Passcode: t7xSqV

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**Executive Board Members Present Remotely:**

Amanda Wolkowitz; Deirdre Medina; Nicole Zampello; Karen Smith; Nicole Lebovic

**Guests Present Remotely:**

Liza Sussman; Angela Genova; Carla Calrk-Campbell; Altragracia Commissiong; Corinne Caridad; Deborah Vivas; iPhone; Karen Spence; Melissa Cohen; Sara Cordova; Sofia Genova; Victoria Jorgensen; Angela Monje; Vrenny Armijos; Szyen Soto; Rachael Bulla; Mrs. Gueye; Lucille Perfetto; Caban; Jennifer Astor

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1. **Opening Items**
2. Roll Call
3. **Committee Reports**
4. Communications and Social Media Report

Deirdre Medina welcomed all the new families that have joined the FA communications lists and social media and asked families to keep a lookout for information from the FA on Instagram, Facebook and Remind.

1. **New Business**
2. Intro to Executive Board -- Amanda Wolkowitz introduced the new and returning members of the Family Association Executive Board.
3. Deidre Medina discussed her efforts to solicit fresh contact information from all families to start fresh using a google form, populating groups for class parents so we have a complete and accurate contact list, cleaning up the old list with many errors.
4. Karen Smith discussed why we fundraise. We fundraise to raise money for low and no cost fun events during the school day like Pumpkin Patch and after school like Trunk or Treat and also to support our school. We host smaller scale fundraisers like bake sales and pie sales for Thanksgiving and as a result of our largest fundraiser last year, Read a Thon, we were able to give the school $18,000 to go toward a library with decodable books for our kids.
5. 5th Grade Events committee – Looking for 5th grade parents to sign up to plan fun events, trips, etc for our 5th graders. Also looking for 5th grade parents to help with the yearbook.
6. Class Representatives – Deidre reported that we have reps for all but three classes. Class reps help organize parties and collections for the teachers, etc.
7. **Ms. Illuzi’s Events update**

Ms. Illuzi discussed United Nations Day – half day, families can collaborate with countries/cultural experiences foods, etc. There will be a flag parade and music. It will not be in the Hall of Science, it will be in the classrooms with passports.

1. **Announcements**
2. We are currently accepting candy donations and non candy items for Trunk or Treat. Fill our cute candy monster’s bellies. Please sign up if you are decorating your trunk for trunk or treat or that you are attending.
3. 10/12 there will be a fall bake sale during school. Half the proceeds will help fund Trunk or Treat and half will be donated to Making Strides Against Breast Cancer since October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Families that would like to donate can start sending in baked goods on 10/11.
4. Pumpkin Patch is on Halloween during the school day. Kids will get to choose their own pumpkin and will have their photo taken. We will be looking for volunteers to assist.
5. Wiked Stitches store closes 10/15 with delivery 11/1.
6. **Approval of Financials**

Nicole Lebovic reviewed the financials. On September 1 our balance was $6,609.13 and on September 30 it was $7,347.44. Deidre Medina made a motion to accept the financials as read, Karen Smith seconded. All in favor. Motion accepted.

Nicole Lebovic presented the proposed budget for the 2023-2024 school year of $33,400 income and $32,960 in expenses. Vrenny Armijos made a motion to accept the budget and Corinne Caridad seconded. All in favor. Motion accepted.

1. **Public questions/comments**
2. Altagracia Commissiong asked if we would be using the same company for the yearbook this year. Amanda Wolkowitz said yes.
3. Mrs. Illuzi made a statement about parent engagement and that there was a lot of parent engagement last year and asked all to spread the word so we can match that level of engagement again this year.
4. Vrenny Armijos asked if volunteers were needed for the bake sale. Amanda responded that although none were needed, there would be many opportunities to volunteer for upcoming school events and activities including Pumpkin Patch, Trunk or Treat and holiday decorating. Vrenny then asked if our school has a basket auction.
5. Carla Clark-Campbell asked if there would be sign ups for events such as Trunk or Treat on the Family Association web site and Amanda said yes that we could add the information and sign ups there and thanked Carla for the suggestion.
6. Corinne Caridad asked if the Storm Cart was coming back this year. Amanda let her know that’s a school run fundraiser, not Family Association. Mrs. Illuzi said she would like to bring it back bc it really helped to fund some basket prizes for Red and Blue.
7. Mrs. Illuzi spoke about the Red and Blue gala and that anyone interested in volunteering to help should email her. Vrenny said she would like to help.
8. Vrenny asked if there was any opportunity for once a month sales of ices, pretzels, etc. like many PTAs in other schools do. Amanda responded that it’s more difficult at Bridge Prep because the lunchroom is shared with Petrides.

Vrenny Armijos made a motion to adjourn. Corinne Caridad seconded. Meeting adjourned 7:18.