**Call to Order:** 9:41 am by Stewart PTA Director Sabrina Vona.

**General Meeting:**

**Quorum**: a quorum of 30 members was met.

**Handouts:** Agenda.

**Sign-ups:** Nominating Committee.

**Approval of previous draft minutes:** None.

**Grant vote** (to purchase carpets): Passed

**Introductions by Director:** (Sabrina Vona)

**Stewart School Update:**

**Principal’s Report:** (Ms. Hand)

* Introducing;
  + Mrs. Lindsey as the new assistant principal
  + PTA Teacher Representative for this year, Mrs. Kern.
* Thank you to parents for help organizing materials before school, and the Picture Day and Spirit Day committees.
* Mrs. Vincent and Mrs. Lindsey will be conducting character building meetings and assemblies to discuss Making Choices and Learning from Mistakes.
* Music Updates
  + The new music classroom (rm. 131) is finished!
  + The 5th Grade Musical is the Wizard of Oz
  + The 2nd Grade will have two Halloween performances
* Unity Day is coming up on October 19, 2022. Each child will get to plant a tulip bulb and watch is bloom.
* The Veterans Day Assembly returns this year as part of the initiative to bring back community connection post-pandemic. Stewart is inviting family members of students who are veterans.
* The playground bridge piece has finally arrived!

**Parent Square Presentation:** (Ms. Conforti)

* Parent Square is the new method of communication for Stewart School. It has a social media feel. You can toggle between students to narrow the feed and filter posts. It can also be used to communicate with teachers and administration.
  + Parent Square is used to provide updates, newsletters, photos, and teacher messages.
  + It is different than School Tool, which is for report cards, grades, schedules, and teacher assignments.
* Parents can choose how to access the program, including text notifications, email notifications (default), and notifications through the App.
  + Alerts relating to Safety/Transportation will come through immediately, no matter what.

**Committee Reports and Event Announcements:**

**Nominating:**

* Sign up if you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee.

**Holiday Craft Fair – 12/8/22:** (Jill Breusch)

* Look out for Sign-up Genius for supplies.
* Crafts to be made 11/30/22
* Still deciding on what charity to support

**Curriculum:** (Chrisann Newransky)

* Currently have two members, want 1-2 more
  + Email [curriculum@gardencitypta.org](mailto:curriculum@gardencitypta.org) to sign up.
* One “big” meeting per month and the rest is coordinated via email
* This committee collaborates with the district (Dr. Sinha & Dr. Cannone) regarding priorities for the Curriculum.
* Four priorities this year:
  + Erin’s Law – preventing child sexual abuse
  + How can school spaces be used for learning?
  + New Math curriculum – “Illustrative Math”
  + Looking at improving writing through curriculum changes

**Reflections:** (Rashi Rohatgi)

* This year’s theme is: “Show Your Voice.” There are six categories - you can submit an entry in more than one category.
* There is a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner for each school in each category.
* There will be an assembly in the Spring for the winners.

**PARP (Pick a Reading Partner):** (Sabrina Vona)

* This year’s theme is: ”Not All Who Wander Are Lost.
* Activities will be a mix of in-person and virtual, with a live PARP week in the Spring.

**Membership:** (Colleen Ciullo)

* We have 1,400+ members so far! Looking for 100% membership as a goal.
* You need to be a PTA member to volunteer.

**Adjournment:**  Meeting adjourned at 10:29 am.

Minutes submitted by Joy Jankunas, Stewart School PTA Secretary