



BUGS PTA GENERAL MEETING AGENDA
November 12, 2024 @ 6:30pm

Zoom info:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81039696110?pwd=TuuBjl71M1subm8RTTrK7yGQEa8Ud7.1>

Meeting ID: 810 3969 6110

Passcode: ca0qjU

Attendance Link: <https://forms.gle/gxQMzqT6KEaxadJ39>

Agenda:

- Welcome
- Foley Firs presentation
- Reading and Approval of Minutes
 - [October Meeting Minutes](#)
- President's Report
 - October recap
 - Creating new opportunities/structures for family voice
 - New modes of PTA involvement
- BUGS Administration Report
 - Principal
 - Executive Director
 - Family Coordinator
- Treasurer's Report
 - Monthly financial report (against [2024/25 Approved Budget](#))
- Committee Reports
 - Fundraising Committee
 - Upcoming plans
 - Holiday catalog sales
 - Merch sales
 - Enrichment Action Group

- Families of Students with Learning Differences Affinity Group (Thursday, Dec. 5 - 7pm)
- [Committee and Executive Board interest form](#)
- Upcoming events, volunteer needs
 - November 21 Holiday Potluck and Harvest Fest
 - January Caregivers' Night Out (Date TBD)
 - Holiday Grocery Card Drive
- Old Business
 - SY event calendar, [leadership interest solicitation](#)
 - [Caregiver Speaker Series ideas solicitation](#)
- New Business
 - BUGS board meeting update
 - Membership new interests / items
 - Questions?
- Adjournment

11/12/24 Meeting Minutes

- October meeting minutes were approved.
- Kate shares positives, including Fun Run, which will likely result in about \$500 that we'll get in the spring, and two bake sales.
- Wrapped up fall donations push and Kirsten will give updates.
- Basketball program kicked off — Yael shared that the kids took it very seriously and worked together, and Yael and Megan are interested in getting more involvement from the school and community. Kirsten shared that the coaches who run the program are dynamic and very fair. The team includes expert players and beginners, and the coaches and students are very positive. They are hoping to continue through winter and spring. Some 6th grade parents are stepping up and want to create a 6th grade team.
- Kate: ways to support more family voices at BUGS. Kate learned last month that the PTA president can go through the vetting process and can become a member of the BUGS board. Kate shared that family input on meaningful, possible structures is very much encouraged.
- Mr. Foley shared the details of the Christmas Tree sales. Friends, family, etc. can visit his stand on **8th Street and 8th Avenue** or buy online. Those who purchase do not need to be school families. They offer delivery. He donates a percentage of the profit to the school, depending on numbers who buy and number of students at the schools. <https://www.foleyfirs.com/>

- Kate shared opportunities to become more involved in the PTA, including involvement in specific events or co-leadership roles.
- Kirsten provided the treasurer's report.
- Kirsten to insert quick update here:
 - Full budget spreadsheet linked [here](#)
- Holiday catalog sales: Believe Kids and Fairtrade Caravans to launch on Nov. 15 and will run for about a month.
- Kirsten explains that the school makes requests for PTA funding for school events.
- Enrichment Action Group update: School sent email about collaboration with the student council.
 - Adelita talked about movie night efforts, which gave us the opportunity to learn about how to get students involved with that. We now want to engage with the Student Council about movies kids might want to watch. For movie night, it would be great to engage multiple groups because student council hasn't been as robust.
 - When arts cuts were made last year, this grew out of an effort to provide opportunities for kids to interact with each other outside of school.
 - FREE Brooklyn Acting/Improv workshop sponsored by BUGS coming up on Nov. 23th.
 - Sarah is committed to supporting 6th grade basketball team.
- Families of Students with Learning Differences Affinity Group (Zoom Thursday, Dec. 5 - 7pm) We will be talking about the Science of Reading and how shifts in reading instruction impact middle school students. We are doing an art contest for Neurodiversity Week coming up. Dan Nee has been on paternity leave.
 - [Committee and Executive Board interest form](#)
 - Upcoming events, volunteer needs
 - November 21 Holiday Potluck and Harvest Fest - parent volunteer signup sheet was posted by school so volunteers should sign up with the school directly. PTA will sponsor main dishes.
 - November/December Caregivers' Night Out (Date TBD, probably in January).
 - Holiday Grocery Card Drive: PTA is partnering with the school to support families in need of food support.
 - A group of friends decided not to go because it's 6-8, they want it to be 8th grade only. Yael says there are roving groups of kids who don't want to dance, so maybe there's an adjacent activity such as a "casino" that was a little more expansive.
- Old Business
 - SY event calendar, [leadership interest solicitation](#)

- [Caregiver Speaker Series ideas solicitation](#): Includes 8th grade high school talk, etc. Brianna says we could invite a member of the administration about how to use Google Classroom and TeacherEase.
- New Business
 - BUGS board meeting update
 - Membership new interests / items
 - The Advisory time shifts (shorter, different time) are impacting some students. Several families and parents on the call shared that students have been noticing that the time is much less effective in the afternoon, which seemed to have to do with limited space and desire of some students to pass the Spanish regents. They cut arts and added additional sustainability time. Adelita said that students found Office Hours helpful, so they cut the day by a few minutes so kids could attend more regularly.
 - Rube Goldberg competition or workshop?
 - Susan said she is planning on doing a family survey.
 - Kate suggests that surveying could be helpful as a way for PTA to represent parent voice.
 - Adelita suggests a Google Classroom tutorial would be helpful, and TeacherEase is very different from Google Classroom.
 - Questions?
- Adjournment