



AMPARK PARENTS' ASSOCIATION - GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Board Members

Co-Presidents: Odaliz Vasquez and Tina Ponce

Treasurer: Joseph Ibarra

CO-VPs of Fundraising: Jessica Benjamin and Rosemary Gonzalez

CO-VPs of Parent Involvement: Megan Enrique and Teshaun Shell

Secretary: Elora Ibarra

Call to order: 6:05PM

I. Principal's Report – Ms. Meena Lidharrie (20min)

- **Greetings for the new year**
- ***Mood Meter***
- **AmPark Vision & Mission Statement**
 - Vision at AmPark is to educate young minds by providing students with the opportunity to be innovative, reflective, collaborative, to reach their creative potential as a path to career and financial security. All stakeholders are unified in guiding all learners to ensure success and celebrate their achievements.
 - Mission at AmPark is to cultivate a community of learners where all students will demonstrate at least 1 year of growth in Reading, Math and Science, every school year. Empowering them to take ownership of their academic and emotional learning as they aspire to become leaders of change.
- **Principal's Priorities** – to engage in constant and routine data analysis in both ELA and Math, incorporating writing and discussion equally within all subjects and emphasis small group instruction we will see greater academic progress in our school.
- **Book of the Month:** Preya Takes Charge by Ariana Erickson
 - Take a moment to ask your children what lesson they learned from the book
- Thank you to Mr. Josh and the fourth-grade band who performed at Arts Festival on Saturday, January 10 and featured on the School District's social media page. Thank you to parent volunteers.
- ELA and Math mid-year assessments are currently being conducted and should be completed by the end of January/first week of February. This will gauge students' performance and will be compared with the results from the beginning of the year.

- **Parent Engagement Hours:** teachers have time set aside during the week to meet with parents to discuss child(ren)'s progress. Reach out to teacher through Bloomz or email to set up an appointment. Please allow 24 hours for response.
- **Early Registration for Pre-K**
 - Apply for NYC children born in the year 2022 by February 27, 2026. Offer/school decision is sent out in May
 - Apply 3 ways:
 - Online: [MySchools.nyc](https://www.myschools.nyc.gov/)
 - Over the phone: 718-935-2009
 - In person by visiting a [Family Welcome Center](#)
- **Chess Club** – began for families who have already paid. Contact Elvira if you are interested in participating
- **AmPark SING** – Celebration of Black History Month - January 20 (K-1st grade), January 21 (grades 2-3) and January 22 (grades 4-5). Families are welcome to attend, participate and learn what the students have been learning
- Tea with the Principal – Tuesday, January 27 – last month's meeting parents were able to tour the school and visit classes to get a sense of what happens in the school on a daily basis
- **After school enrichment educational programs**
 - 4th & 5th graders – before and after school support program open
 - Math support program – Tuesdays for selected 5th graders; Wednesdays and Thursdays for all 5th grade students 7:30 AM – 8:13 AM
 - Ms. Sarar will also run a morning program for 3rd grade on Mondays and Tuesdays
 - Permission slips will go out, please fill out and return if you are interested; contact Ms. Elvira with any questions
 - Program starts on Tuesday, January 20
- **State Exams** – will be administered only online
 - Computer based sample exams: <https://ny.nextera.questarai.com/tds/#practice>
 - AmPark will administer a simulation test on January 27

Due to the sensitive nature of the upcoming topic, parents are asked to move to a space free of children, clear the children from the room or wear personal listening devices

- **Chancellor's Regulation 8418 – Notification of Sex Offenders in our community**
 - Distribution of information pertaining to sex offenders who recently moved in the community and those already living in the community (10463 zip code)
 - Central, NYPD and Office of School Safety distribute a monthly list to schools that is to be shared with the school community.
 - Information about only the offenders living within the AmPark Neighborhood School community will be shared
 - As a precautionary measure to shield children from this information Ms. Meena wants to use Gamma to send out monthly updates re: the sex offenders list
 - Contact email address will be confirmed by AmPark office staff and only primary contact will receive notifications

- o Data is to be only used for informational purposes – letter from Chancellor and image of individuals will be provided from AmPark
 - o School Safety Agents also have access to this information
 - o AmPark’s counselors and social workers will conduct special meetings with the students to discuss safety concerns around walking home, dealing with strangers and safety in general
 - o Meeting with NYPD is scheduled and Ms. Meena will inquire about having a crossing guard at the Hillman crosswalk
 - o Parents are encouraged to be vigilant and reach out to Ms. Meena if there are any questions or concerns
 - o Ms. Elvira, Ms. Evans and Agent Baccas are all points of contact to reach Ms. Meena
 - o File is available for parents to review by visiting the school.
 - o Parents can access this information online:
https://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/SomsSUBDirectory/search_index.jsp
 - o Website - includes names, addresses and offense.
- **Testing Dates** – schools can choose when tests are administered
 - o AmPark testing for grades 3 through 5 starts in April after break
 - ELA test – April 22 & 23, makeup will be April 24
 - Math test – May 6 & 7, makeup will be May 8th
 - Science test (5th grade only) May 12th
 - Test preparation is ongoing
 - Meetings for parents regarding test preparation will be held, more information to follow

II. Parent Coordinator’s Report – Ms. Elvira Dejesus (10min)

- Reminders: Pre-K parents – Kindergarten applications deadline January 23rd
- Dental Visit scheduled for week of February 9th
- Lunch with Elvira – January 23rd at 12:30 PM
- Retakes and cap and gown photos – January 21st – email will be sent for retake opportunities
- Bingo night – January 16th 4 PM – 5 PM

III. President’s Report – Odaliz/Tina (10min)

- Approval of November & December Meeting Minutes – motion to approve: Joe. Second: Jessica. **Minutes Approved**
- 2nd Scholastic Book Fair February 4th through 6th (Wednesday – Friday)
 - o Volunteers are needed to run the fair
- Recognition of Volunteers
 - o Winter Walk – Kara, Claudia Castillo, Melissa Green, Kristina Dunatov
 - o 5th grade bake sale: Camilla Vidal, Robert Corjado (sp?) and Brandie Williams-El
- Sweetheart Dance – Thursday 2/12/2026 – more info to follow
- Emergency SLT election

- o SLT Parent Seat scheduled during our February General PA meeting
 - Election to fill open 1 position – Melissa Green has nominated herself

IV. Family Involvement – Megan and Teshaun (7min)

- Woobles Workshop – 1/30
 - o Family event at Vladeck Hall – orders and payment are still being accepted
- Each one, bring one initiative – each person is encouraged to bring a person to the PA meeting or event.

V. Fundraising – Rosemary Gonzalez and Jessica Benjamin (7min)

- Super Bowl Square is starting **now** - \$20 per box – winners win a portion of the cash.
Open to anyone
 - o Super Bowl is on 2/8
 - o Open to anyone
- Sweethearts Dance – 50/50 raffle will be available to purchase
- Pedals (rose), Kisses (chocolate kisses with a note) & Kindness Deliveries fundraiser from 2/10-12
 - o Roses, candy or a note is available to purchase and will be distributed on Friday, February 13
 - o Candygram funds 5th grade graduation dues
 - o A cash box is available in the mail office
 - o Volunteers to write notes and deliver the gifts would be greatly appreciated

VI. 5th Grade Committee

- Popcorn Fundraiser is scheduled for 1/22-25
- Working in collaboration with the PA
 - o Chocolate Kisses sales go to 5th grade - 5th graders will distribute items to different classes.

VII. Treasurer's Report – Joesph Ibarra (4min)

Monthly Adjusted Balance Sheet

DECEMBER 2025

Beginning Balance 12/1/2025 \$6,710.61

Deposits

Deposit/proceeds from Book Fair, Bake Sale 12/3/2025 \$3,257.67

Square Deposit Donation 12/29/2025 \$248.88

Square Deposit Donation 12/29/2025 \$41.28

Credit Interest 12/31/2026 \$0.35

Withdrawals

Bloomz Fee 12/9/2025 - \$1,800.00

World Vision Fee 12/12/2025 - \$300.00

Reimbursement-Harvest Fest. 12/18/2025 - \$159.63

Ending Balance 11/29/2025 - \$7,999.16

Actual balance a/o JANUARY 1, 2026 - \$7,999.16

Open Items

REIMBURSEMENT-WEBSITE COST MANAGEMENT - \$102.83

SQUARE DONATION \$41.28

SQUARE DONATION \$41.28

SQUARE DONATION \$124.14

SQUARE DONATION \$124.89

Balance a/o 12/10/2025 \$8,227.92

Also, for consideration:

Staff appreciation Week \$1,500.00

Risers \$2,000.00

Future SING (7*350) \$2,450.00

Expected Balance - \$2,277.92

VIII New Business (2min)

- Q&A

IX. Adjournment – 7:16PM

Questions:

Are all schools doing this according to the Chansellor's regulations? Yes, the timing and approach is up to the school

Can parents submit emails electronically to prevent mistakes?

Are the morning enrichment classes only for Math? There is a 4th grade program in the morning led by McFadden for ELA at 7:30 AM. Permission slips will be sent. Ms. Meena is hopeful of adding ELA enrichment programs after the mid-year assessments

Do we have to participate or ignore the dental form? The dental visit is charged to insurance. If you have your own dentist, you do not have to participate

Did we get full compliance with the lunch form? No, not everyone filled out the lunch forms.

About 25 families did not fill out the lunch form

Will the lower grades have field trips during testing? It has been suggested but it is up to the teachers

Attendance:

Megan Enriquez – Issac Dent 302

Wendy – Jackson 202

Laura – Emilia 201

Odaliz – Ethan 4th grade

Marine – Zoe K01

Renee – Lena 4th grade

Samantha Ruiz – Owen and Harley

Teshaun – Gregory 4th grade

Mackenzie Pena – 502

Alix – Chayton 402, Nesta 101

Melissa Green – Emily 402

Kristina Dunatov – Roko 5th grade, Iskandar 1st grade
Suheirys Contrerar – Arlo 402
Aisha – Fatoumata 202
Eastlyn Afriyie – Skyla 4th grade
Bhashanti Narine – Tharan 5th grade
Tina Eugene – Connor 202, Preston K02
Erica Moreno - Luna 5th grade
Jessica – Hendrix 301
Maria – Nicolas Corejo K01
Rosemary – Valentina & Joel 4th grade
Nicole Leone – Leo Lindroth K02
Tina – Jacob 502, Madison 302
Elora & Joe Ibarra – Gabby 301