



4/18/23 Nishuane PTA Board Meeting with Mr. Sedita zoom at 7:00PM

<https://mpsdnj.zoom.us>

Meeting ID: 941 0638 3051

Passcode: Nish2020

Attendees: Frank Sedita, Abena Amoah-Harris, Alexa Capeloto, Anita Fee Willis, Ashley Akinyemi, Ayana Stewart, Jessica Beeman, Karen Murphy, Kay Richards, Kendra Johnson, Nicole Chalfoun, Ms. Alvarez, Ms. Kolenovic, Ms. May, Obie Miranda-Woodley, Rachel Rajaram, Renee Williams and Roxanne

- Anita Fee Willis welcomed everyone and thanked those who volunteered.
 - June 1st PTA Meeting nominating committee presentation/election rescheduled for June 2nd at 9:30am
- Approval of [minutes](#) from March meeting - link placed in the chat and later approved
- Mr. Sedita gave his Principal's Report.
 - Discussed celebration of autism and neurodiversity acceptance month
 - Thanked Ms. Kolenovic and Ms. Wentzell for preparing Spirit Week and a month-long program so children could explore autism, neurodiversity, and foster acceptance of neurodivergent learners
 - Sharing neurodiversity resources in the Nish News that are conversation starters
 - Celebrating Arab-American Heritage month to give children ongoing celebration of different cultures
 - SATp Health and Wellness Fair - April 15h
 - Literacy night - April 20th
 - Next SATp meeting is April 27th at 7PM
- Teacher Liaison Ms. May shared comments, welcoming back everyone.
 - Looking forward to preparing for the kindergarten production, winding down school events
 - Pennies for Pages is underway - in touch with Librarian.
 - Kids are motivated to read by seeing colorful pom poms fill the jar.
 - Field trips - funding is a concern as the cost of buses and trips has gone up.
 - Final Kindergarten trip numbers are needed for donations to support the trips going forward. We don't want to charge parents an overwhelming amount for kids to take trips.
- Anita shared the Treasurer's Report.
 - Explorers have paid all vendors - we have the final financials.

- The PTA paid for and supported the 1st grade production flowers and video.
- Upgraded culturally responsive library books is underway.
- STEAM winter recess is completed and very successful.
- Art & Music for Pre-K were PTA supported and hoping for the district to cover this moving forward.
- PTA Committees:
 - Nominating Committee: Rachel Rajaram shared good news - found people for almost all positions:
 - VP Explorers - Katelyn Delano
 - Recording Secretary - Osei Poku
 - Corresponding Secretary - Natanya Washburn
 - VP Events - Lindsey Bradley
 - VP Strategy - Ayana Stewart-Hartsfield
 - Waiting for someone to take on the role of treasurer - paying people and making sure people get paid.
 - Mayfair Committee: Jessica Beeman reported:
 - Full swing - 1 month out- \$2,800 in ticket sales thus far, \$1,000 in sponsorship, entertainment is lined up.
 - School of Rock performing, DJ, magician, potentially Sharon Miller performing arts, auction items, mechanical spinner, dunk tank (willing participants), face painting, concessions, carnival games trailer, final zoom next week, early bird ticket sales will be over soon. Event is open to the community. Looking for additional sponsors, POPS Therapeutic, pediatric dental, asking businesses to sponsor. Silent auction - a week of camp worth \$2,800, membership at MAM, book basket - Watchung Bookseller, with sponsorship they get a booth, need 2 more chairs. A day of rides. Today is the deadline for the early bird special. Need volunteers for rides/games.
 - SATp (Kendra Johnson/Kay Richards) - Next meeting is 4/27 from 7 to 8.
 - Pennies for Pages is ongoing.
 - Successful Women's history month.
 - Thank you to the chairs.
 - Gotham FC discount - 7PM.
 - The Health and Wellness fair will be 4/15 from 9 to 12. Thank you to Mr. Eder for working on that.
 - Literacy night will be 4/20 at 5:30, starting at 6PM.
 - Angela Isaac is the AAPI event Chair.
 - Laura Schrager is planning Pride.
 - Caribbean heritage - Juneteenth (Raised money for this event)
 - Need co chairs and committee chairs.

- Explorers (Karen Murphy)-wrapped up registration before spring break.
 - Classes start 4/24. Thanks to those who donated for the scholarship fund. Emails to confirm placement.
 - If anyone needs a paraprofessional - reach out to Explorers to set it up.
- OneNish! (Nicole Chalfoun) - Gretchen Blauvelt is taking over.
 - Thanks to everyone for their work.
 - 2 major things going on - 1st annual clothing swap at Mayfair (used to be a tradition previously), received amazing donations, tons of amazing girls clothing, need more boys clothing.
 - Spring giveaway - \$50 grocery cards, additional kid-friendly healthy snacks. Surveys to the Nish community to be given out in May.
 - Great turnout at the last playdate.
- Upcoming Events (Anita Fee Willis)
 - April 15: Nishuane & Hillside Wellness Fair 9:30am-12pm
 - April 16: AAPI Fun Run – part of proceeds will go to Nishuane
 - April 16: Last day for Weston Award nominations
 - April 20: Literacy Night 6pm
 - April 21: School closed for Eid
 - April 22: Women's professional soccer game-Gotham FC match
 - April 24: Spring Explorers classes begin
 - May 5: PTA Meeting 9:30am (Hybrid)
 - May 8-12: Teacher appreciation week
 - May 13: Mayfair/clothing swap
- Q&A – We discussed the need to engage parents especially as SATp volunteers.
- Adjourned at 7:40PM