

**PS 165 Town Hall and PTA General Meeting  
March 21, 2025 Library 8:15am  
Minutes**

8:30: PTA President Jill Moses called the meeting to order  
Attendance: Approximately 17 on Zoom, \_\_\_ in person plus the PTA board.

Presentation on the 7 Habits from students from Class \_\_\_ focusing on Habit 6

**PTA Presentation**

(slides available [here](#))

I. PTA Treasury Reports

January 2025: \$96,872.02 cash on hand as of 2/28/25

- i. Most spending was for Literacy Night (Author honorarium) and New York Hall of Science
- ii. Motion to approve the budget report \_\_\_\_

II. PTA – Events

Scholastic Book Fair March 18-25. We need volunteers! [Sign up here](#).

STEM Night March 27 3-5pm, with NY Hall of Science. We need volunteers for Book Fair that evening and to set up for Stem Night! [Sign up here](#).

Spring Fair May 17: Starting to plan it now. Being supported by the Dad's Committee. [Sign up](#) on the website.

- i. Looking for volunteers and raffle items donated from local businesses or your companies

III. Ways to support the PTA: [Family donations](#), [Amazon wishlist](#), [volunteering](#)

IV. PTA Committees: Still time to join

**Events**

- i. STEM Night - Wednesday March 27 3:00-4:30pm
  - 1. Afterschool staff will automatically bring kids

**C&I Committee**

- ii. Met with PS 165 Equity Team - planned for April, May and June 2025 and Kick off event for September 2025 and welcome picnic (possible survey), possible grade meetups at playground
- iii. Women's History and Civics Team Week Newsletter is going out (previewed and shown today)
- iv. Monthly weekend meetup opportunities on a calendar
- v. PTA Board Recruitment: to ensure our board reflects the diversity of the community

**Dads' Committee**

- vi. Focus is Spring Fair

- vii. PTA Closet organization (share with YMCA, YANY and Cafeteria)
- viii. Fundraising ask : Wishlist of items (\$900) (has a specific QR code, see in slide )
- ix. Ask to join whats app chat if interested
- x. Field Day: Need a lot of volunteers

### **Title I (see below)**

#### **PTA Open Positions**

- xi. 1 president, 1 treasurer and 1 secretary
- xii. Want to emphasize more diversity and viewpoints this year
- xiii. Contact PTA if interested in running

#### **Questions**

- xiv. Question from Survey
  - 1. (Additional question)
  - 2. How to improve book careBook fair
  - 3. How to improve? How do we limit toys at book fair
- xv. Spring Fair: Will a letter be sent out that explains how to solicit donations from companies and others for the book fair?
- xvi. Question: Can you use Cool Culture Pass or Membership for attending the School visit to Natural History Museum on April 6 2025
  - 1. Yes, but usually this only pays admission and you would need another ticket for planetarium etc
- xvii. Question about G and T and if there are spaces open for Grades 1-4?
  - 1. Answer from Scanlon- from previous years yes

### **Title I**

SLT has coordinated a trip to Natural History Museum on April 6 2025

- xviii. Voted for funds and vote was or Title I Funds
- xix. Free tickets to meet up trips, have to register April 1 12:30 meet up, 1pm Planetarium show and a day to enjoy at (can use your own membership and still meet up with us whether you get the tickets through this or not)
- xx. Just reserve tickets for 1pm with Cool Culture Pass or Membership (gets you in to museum but youd need it separate)
- xxi. Limited number of tickets

### **PS 165 Town Hall**

Scanlon presented an update on Leader in Me School  
Habit 6 is Synergize

Ms Rosado presented on Culture and Inclusion for April  
Cultural Heritage Month for April - Arab American Heritage Month  
Recapped March - Women's History Month and Civics Week

- Kids created posters, learned about women suffrages movement and voted for a special song to dance to at the assembly, they participated in some art lessons
- Each grade learned about a woman who shaped the world
- Kids had an assembly

Ms. Scanlon presented information about the visiting 8th graders from Booker T Middle School

- Booker T from 8th grade did read a louds with PreK to grade 2 students (with well prepared and impressive lesson plans)
- Ms Scanlon will ask for this to be done again

Ms. Scanlon presented on Leadership Assembly

- Happens once a month and is for quick school wide announcements and talk about the week or month theme
- System of leadership points that results in class with most amount of points is awarded a trophy (4ft) that rotates that can be traded in for extra recess time etc

Ms. Scanlon presented on the Curriculum Overview  
Curriculum

- Literacy- Foundations K-2 (early reading), Estrellita (Spanish Dual Language)
- Heggarty- phonemic awareness (K-2)
- Wit and Wisdom (kids like it) , 2nd grade - Civil Rights
- Math - Bridges (hands on learning), Number talks, exemplars - mental math and problem solving
- Science - Amplify - projects
- All teachers have same lunch and prep for grade and all base curriculum
- Social Studies: passport projects in all grades
- Curriculum is Modified in Dual Language ICT, GT (assessment and small group based on needs), ICT
- Ms. Scanlon presented on Lighthouse Committee got \$250 to figure out what they want to do

Ms. Scanlon answered a question from the survey on Gifted and Talented:

GT used to be an assessment given at age 4, DOE determined not as equitable so its transitioned

Its a rubric given to PreK children, its not academic based, its more about questioning curiosity and other things. GT does not mean a child is above and beyond grade level in every subject but has several qualities emphasized by DOE

ICT has 2 teachers and get more support for struggling

Ms Scanlon emphasized STEM Night!

STEM Night - Wednesday March 27 3:00-4:30pm

Ms Scanlon emphasized how to foster Friendships across Programs and Grade Levels

- Lunch and recess with grade as well as Special event is grade wide (trips, assemblies, shows)
- Leadership roles include all programs
- Cohort specials (4th and 5th)  $\frac{1}{3}$  of grade goes to the special (prep for middle school)
- Older grades have class "buddy" in lower grade

Ms. Diaz presented upcoming DOE/Enrollment dates

-Kindergarten offers Weds April 2 2025

-Middle school offer - April 9th

PreK offer may 13

Ms. Scanlon presented about Mott Hall Updates

Mott Hall Proposal Went through - Mott Hall is leaving next year, not sure whats happening to space, Principal asking for the space, will update parents (maybe an extra kindergarten or PreK offering and build from lower grades bc hard to find older kids)

Ms. Scanlon presented about G&T Application

G&T Enrollment - Application has changed, Grade 1 - 4th can apply to G&T through My Schools , Opens on April 21 and have until may 9 to apply , June 11 results to parents Based on report card grades and placement centrally through DOE (district wide program)

NY State Assessment presented by Ms. Diaz

3-5 ELA State Test April 23 - 24

Math May 6th to 7th

Science May 13 (5th grade only)

3-5th computer based

Afterschool 230-330 for 3-5th on computer, how to use the app

Typing Practice

All students in STEM google classroom has a section dedicated for typing

Each class will have typing practice

[Online question sample](#)

Typing practice

[Typing Jungle](#)

Typing.com

[Typetastic](#)

Drawing practice: Try to find an app to draw an answer because they have to draw

Ms. Scanlon presented about School Surveys

This is important - it's a way that families figure out to see how to come to the school Goal 80% participation (extra recess time and ice pop party) ,2024-21% of participation Due April 4th

## **Upcoming Dates**

March 27: Setm night 3-4  
March 28 PreK open class room 815  
March 31 School closed  
April 11 k-5 open classroom wit and wisdom  
April 14-18 Spring break  
April 19 - first day back  
April 23-24 - ELA Test  
April 25th next town hall  
Field Day May 30 (rain date june 4th)  
June 12 leadership date

## **Questions**

From Survey

-Are gifted and talented kids using the same curriculum as the rest of the school?

Answer: Yes they do the same curriculum, all classes do

-State test how long do kids actually have?

Answer:

-They can work until the last moment of the school day 2:15 - 2:20p (its usually not that helpful)

-Kids can get rotated to an extra time room, get a lunch break but not recess break

-Consider kids pacing when prep at home

What is the Executive Order to Dismantle Department of Education

Answer:

-NYC DOE legal team emphasized all policies stay the same

-Not clear the impact just yet

-Legal teams are working at NYC DOE

-Principal will update

-We will work together as a community to make sure

-School gets federal funding Title I and 21st Century Grant

What can parents do about Executive Order?

-Continue to support your kids and be involved and contact PTA

When do results form School survey come out?

Answer: They come out around this time before enrollment

When does Title I Survey results come out?

Answer: Still waiting

**Meeting ended 9:19 am.**

**Next Town Hall:** Next meeting Friday April 25 at 8:30am