

AMPARK PARENTS' ASSOCIATION - GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, December 14, 2022
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Board Members
Co-Presidents: Odaliz Vasquez and Janine Faso
Treasurer: Joseph Ibarra
VP of Fundraising: Jaime Benjamin
VP of Parent Involvement: Audrey Routliffe
Secretary: Elora Ibarra

I. **Call to Order -** 6:38 PM

**** Ice Breaker**** - Mood Meter

II. **Principal's Report** – Meena

- Festival of lights - scheduled December 22nd 4-6pm in PS 95 yard
- Mask recommendation alert from DOE - masks highly recommended in school building - sick students will be sent home; keep sick children home; send children to school with masks
- Fun Friday continues - calendars are sent home with Fun Friday theme for the month; ice cream and icicles are available during recess for $2 every Friday
- 2nd & 3rd grade basketball program ends December 23rd
- 4th & 5th grade basketball program will begin in January - Flyer will be sent home with sign up information
- Some 5th grade students want to initiate cheerleading program - no volunteer leader (Jaimie perhaps) - Flyer will be sent in January for sign up
- Holiday celebrations - COVID regulations in place - class celebrations, no parents or home made foods
- Social emotional learning activities are conducted every week with guidance counselors and school staff. Next week Holiday Sing with Josh will be conducted at that time
- AmPark is one of two schools selected to partner with The Robin Hood Foundation - 2 year funding commitment to participate in a culturally responsive computational thinking and blending literacy instruction program. The foundation will review how AmPark incorporates social emotional learning skills in the classroom and out. This will involve teachers, students and parents/guardians
- Leader in Me Program still in effect - Practicing 2nd Habit - "Begin with the End in Mind"
    - Practiced during arrival and breakfast includes breathing exercises and discussions
- Mascot - naming ceremony scheduled for week of December 19th
- Reporting incidents - make teacher aware as soon as possible

- Incidents have to be reported by staff within 24 hours - document all incidents minor or major as required by DOE
- Follow chain of command - reach out to teacher or parent coordinator

- Recess and playtime at AmPark will be evaluated by third party in January to better utilize indoor space
- ENL teacher vacancy - Andrea left AmPark family - a part time teacher will be hired
- Bernadette (4th grade teacher) will be on maternity leave - veteran teacher will step in to assist Javier starting January 6th
- Holiday Wishes from Meena in the form of gifts being sent home.

Q&A:

- Can we revert to increased hand washing?
  - Children cannot be forced to wash hands or wear masks. There are ample supplies. Hand sanitizer - is it available in the eating areas? Remind children with masks to keep them on
- Can Robin Hood help with allocating an art teacher?
  - Will broach that conversation in regards to the needs of AmPark. The entire AmPark community will contribute to the conversation
- Why do some groups go out to the park and others do not?
  - It depends on the weather and the condition of the park. Classes rotate yard time when Classic Park is not available. All the children cannot utilize the yard at the same time. Using the front of the building was suggested - it is not safe
- Appreciation pause - Meena and Elvira thanked for all their hard work by Shante, 5th Grade Committee Chair
- Can we use the “Being a Good Citizen” approach by AmPark to continue hand washing and other healthy habits? How do we incorporate Leader in Me habits into Fun Friday? Can raffles be centered around “the habit”?
  - They are separate programs. Fun Friday is for increased student participation. Leader in me is a month-long program showcasing students who have displayed the habit for the month.
- 4th & 5th Grade basketball start date?
  - January 13th - Flyer will be sent
- When does the new Science teacher start?
  - Still being vetted. Still processing.
- Will there be a playoff between 2nd/3rd graders and the 4th/5th graders?
  - No.
- Will photos of Leader in Me winners be shared on the blog?
  - No, permission is required to share pictures of children by the DOE
  - Group picture shared on bulletin board in common area in the school
  - Can teachers send out congratulatory messages to parents of individual winners?
    - Elvira will be reaching out to teachers
- Will we be planning a school science fair?
  - AmPark will be involved in district Science Fair
  - School science fair will be further discussed.

IV. Parent Coordinator's Report – Elvira

- Lunch forms - missing only 5 - deadline December 19th
- Kindergarten enrollment currently open
- Pre-K application opens in January
- Encourage families who are not receiving communication (email and Owl Blog) from AmPark to come into school verify and update their information
- Lunch with Elvira workshops - monthly discussions with parents and administration - 2 separate sessions: English and Spanish
- For 5th Grade - Charter school application is April 1st
- AmPark will be reaching out to families who need devices in case remote instruction is required

V. Reading and approval of November's General PA meeting minutes

December minutes approved

VI. President's Report – Odaliz/Janine

A. Erin, Pre-K teacher acting as liaison between teachers and admin to meet with PA once a month to discuss school events and relay information

B. Donors Choose Project - discuss if and how PA can fund projects that teachers put on Donors Choose website

VII. Parent Involvement - Audrey

1. Winter Festival of Lights - combine Holiday Sing and Winter Walk in 2 sessions 4pm - 6pm
    1. Complimentary hot cider and hot cocoa will be available
    2. Planned walk to Classic park followed by a sing along with Josh
    3. Take home craft will be given out at end of event
    4. Sign up genius to volunteer to help set up, clean up and to man the craft tables will be sent out

VIII. Fundraising report – Jaime

1. Basket raffle - money will go to benefit 5th grade; tickets 5 for $10; 10 for $15; 20 for $20
    1. Monster Golf basket
    2. Be Rooted Self Celebration basket - self care basket
    3. Legoland basket
    4. Hapik basket
2. Super Bowl Squares - $20 per box, open to the entire AmPark community. Flyer will be sent in January

IX. 5th Grade Committee – Shante (Chair)

1. Last meeting - December 7th at 6:30pm
2. Deposit was made to following vendors: Club Getaway = $1,250, J&R Bus Tours = $200, Maestro's Double = $500 deposit
3. 5th Grade Popcorn Fundraiser – November 17-21 raised $5,678

4. Yearbook photos are coming in, working with teachers to determine what artwork to be used and decide a theme.
    1. Estimated cost for 50 yearbooks = $1,397.50
    2. Estimated cost for 55 yearbooks = $1,537.25
5. T-shirts - design in progress; working with Smooth USA (vendor) on quote - update next meeting
6. Senior dues - being drafted and will go out to families when complete

X. Treasurer's Report – Joseph

1. Report November Financials
2. Beginning balance = $17,174.02
3. Withdrawals = $2,000, $50 & $300
4. Deposits = $3,174.20, $200
5. Amazon smile = $45.14
6. Double Good = $5,428.50
7. Credit interest = $1.58
8. Ending balance November 30th = $23,673.44

XI. Old Business – Winter Festival date changed from weekend to weekday for admin and staff participation

XII. New Business – none

XIII. Adjournment – 8:22pm

Wednesday, November 9, 2022
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Meeting
Board Members
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Treasurer: Joseph Ibarra
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VP of Parent Involvement: Audrey Routliffe
Secretary: Elora Ibarra

I. Call to Order

**** Ice Breaker** -** Mood Meter

II. **Principal's Report** – Meena

IV. Parent Coordinator's Report – Elvira

V. Reading and approval of October's General PA meeting minutes

VI. President's Report – Odaliz/Janine
A. Scholastic Book Fair Updates – 10/31 – 11/4

VII. Parent Involvement - Audrey

VIII. Fundraising report – Jaime

IX. 5th Grade Committee – Shante (Chair)
A. Double Good Popcorn 5th Grade Fundraiser – November 17-21
B. Meeting of November 2nd Recap

X. Treasurer's Report – Joseph
A. Report October Financials

XI. Old Business –
XII. New Business –
XIII. Adjournment –