



PARENT ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 21st @ 7:00PM

Attendance:

Jessica Fitts, Genevieve Smith, Angelica Jadunandan, Sarah Panag, Christen Russo, Katie Miles, Dorothy Hong, Steven Smerina, Tyler Mills, Amina Hamidi

Principal's Report

There are only twenty days of school left. Our teachers have been through all of their Wit & Wisdom training and are excited to launch Fall 2024.

We are in events mode now: concerts, field days, stepping up, field trips, graduation.

Treasurers' Report & Vote on Preliminary Budget

Steven Smerina gave a brief year in review: great fundraising efforts this year; we are +18k for this year and awaiting read-a-thon (~3k) & carnival [see below]. We are on budget for expenditures: professional development, committees, community support (afterschool overbudget 13k) and extracurriculars.

Fundraising	Budget	Actual through 4/30/2024	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Mighty Fine Drive	80,000	75,779	(4,221)
Auction	40,000	61,905	21,905
School Supply	3,000	5,034	2,034
Field Trip Program	-	8,288	8,288
Gear	8,000	13,825	5,825
Read-a-thon	5,000	~3,200	(5,000)
Spooktacular, Spring Carnival (net of expenses)	3,000	2,321	(679)
Other	10,000	803	(9,197)
Interest	4,000	3,656	(344)
Total	\$153,000	\$171,611	\$18,611

Prelim 24-25 Budget (see below)

Genevieve opened the discussion about the addition of Tiny Scientist as an enrichment to K-1 science classes (Mr Nick focuses on 2-5th grades); cost would be about 25k.

Jessica added that we do have a reserve/cushion and perhaps could budget for 30k for enrichment next year.

Steven discussed increasing classroom budgets next year to \$500 (from 250) and cluster budgets to \$1000 (from 750).

Prof development budget is dramatically lower next year because of the new curriculum roll out that the city is paying for, and the current PBL PD in our budget will not be feasible with all of the PD from Wit & Wisdom.

We will keep the administrative & committee expenditures the same as well as after school support. Even though we were under budget for after school this year, this is an important initiative we want to budget fully for.

In summary, we are adding money to classroom & cluster budgets and decreasing professional development but everything else is basically staying the same.

Angelica brought up that since we made money at some of our events perhaps we can offer some more free things at these events (like ice cream truck @ carnival). Steven said we could put more in the budget for these events then.

Katie asked about using Teachers' Assistants to help with class size and if that would fit into this budget discussion. Sarah said the last time they did this was 2019 and it was difficult to coordinate and keep the assistants happy. She is considering substitute paraprofessionals instead. The PA can use their budget for this, but they have to pay 2x what the DOE pays. Jessica & Genevieve explained that the school tries to pay for all staff so the PA does not get stuck paying the fringe (the PA supports all the other programs to free up money for staffing).

Fundraising	2023-24 Budget	Actual through 4/30/2024	2024-25 Budget
Mighty Fine Drive	80,000	75,779	80,000
Auction	40,000	61,905	40,000
School Supply	3,000	5,034	3,000
Field Trip Program	-	8,288	-
Gear	8,000	13,825	8,000
Read-a-thon	5,000	-	5,000
Spooktacular, Spring Carnival (net of expenses)	3,000	2,321	3,000
Other	10,000	803	7,500
Interest	4,000	3,656	4,000
Total	\$153,000	\$171,611	\$150,500

Steven motioned to approve prelim budget, Jessica seconded; all approved.

New Business

o Nominating Committee Report

Elections will be held at the next PA General meeting on June 4; the final executive meeting will be afterwards so there can be proper transition & overlap.

Open positions: class parent liaison, co-chair for gear (design, sale), 2 SLT positions (in person once a month, meet w teachers to discuss curriculum etc)

o Committee updates

- Gear

- Fundraising

Angelica discussed doing something w a smaller restaurant (non chain) where they donate a portion of profits to PS39.

- Class Parent Liaison
- Gardening

o Honoring Ms. Herskowitz upon her retirement

Karen Herskowitz (school business manager) is retiring this year; has been here for 15 years. We would like to honor her by plating a Crepe Myrtle in the yard. Will have a day or week to honor her in the yard as well.

o Upcoming Community Events

- Spring Carnival is June 1 and incoming K to be invited!

- Parent Seminar with Max Stossel [M.S. 51 William Alexander](#) will be on June 11

Parents talk on tech/phone use, no kids. Invite neighboring elementary schools and have a suggested donation

- Cyclones Game (June 23)

Cheap tickets, kids run the bases, welcome for PS39 on big screen.