



MS 297 | SEVENTY-FIVE MORTON

PTA General Membership Meeting February 14, 2018 8:15am Minutes

ATTENDANCE COUNT: 52

- I. 8:20am Call to Order, Welcome - Nick
- II. 8:23 Review and Approval of Agenda
- III. 8:24 Reading and Approval of Minutes
- IV. 8:25 Auction Party –4/27/18 (date to be confirmed) – We need lots of help!
 - a. DONATIONS: donate something or canvas your neighborhood for donation items; letter coming in email (explains the school and event) - distribute to your favorite businesses esp. local – deadline will be around 4/1/18. Backstage passes, one-of-a-kind experiences most welcome.
 - b. GRAPHIC DESIGN – need your help! Please!!
 - c. AUCTIONEER – are you one? Do you know one?
 - d. OFFICE HELP/ONSITE HELP – we need willing souls!
 - e. QUESTIONS? READY TO VOLUNTEER? – email Auction@ms297nyc.org
- V. 8:32 Principal's Report – Jacqui
 - a. Jacqui has officially been named principal!! Big cheers all around!!
 - b. Enrolment numbers early March (275-300 incoming sixth graders); need to brainstorm orientation. Budget comes early June
 - c. New Math Professional Dev, Special Ed Professional Dev – paid by PTA (thanks!)
 - d. Student Led Conferences, just like in the Fall – you can also meet with bungalow teachers one-on-one, just email office to schedule
 - e. School photos: letter with codes out today, makeup 3/21/18
 - f. Advisory Olympics, Talent Show in the Spring (Shh! Keep it secret from the kids)
- VI. 8:41 Curriculum Report – Donna Santman
 - a. ELA NY State test dates: April 11, 12; (MATH NY State test dates: May 1, 2)
 - b. There are predictable mistakes/misunderstandings inherent to the test. It's intentionally a trap. We teach our students to be comfortable in the conditions (building the stamina they will need) and we teach them to navigate the traps – to identify them.
 - c. This year is to build confidence- the 7th grade tests are heavily weighted for high school.
 - d. The test workbook is an opportunity to practice. The whole book will not be done in school but you can do more if you like. There are NY State released tests on line for years 2014-17.
 - e. Give your kids a little less sugar in the month of March!

- f. Read articles and discuss them with your children- engage them in thinking through text and using vocabulary from the article to explain their thinking.
- VII. 9:12 Treasurer's Report – Judy
 - a. Income: have reached projected target from direct appeal, but still need to increase participation level
 - b. Paid for Teachers' Development, books, office supplies
- VIII. 9:16 Vote for color jet printer ~ \$2,289.10 for printer plus initial ink. Ongoing expense of ~ \$500/year for ink. (approved unanimously, possible donation from Holly Noto)
- IX. 9:21 President's Report – Bob - Please volunteer! Especially for the auction. 75 Morton building revealed in all its terra cotta glory. It looks amazing. On track for Fall!
- X. 9:22 School Leadership Team Report - Heather
 - a. 68% children and 56% parents chose – 75 MORTON - as the name of our school! Now working on mission and vision statement. Holly Noto is leading this effort
 - b. Forming Committee on Community Partnerships co-led by Suzanne Murphy & a teacher to gather ideas from the community; to join, email pta@ms297nyc.org
- XI. 9:28 Committee Reports
 - a. Community
 - i. Social Media Workshops - Will answer community questions about social media. The authority (Michelle Ciulla Lipkin) is a leading expert in social media use for tweens/teens. An adult workshop (on 3/13/18 8:15am-10am) and a student workshop (in classroom). Then reporting back to the parents on her observations & reflections (April TBA)
 - ii. Brass Monkey Happy Hour – Tuesday evening in May, 6-8pm
 - b. Fundraising
 - i. Theater benefit – 3/19/18 (2 other schools; limited tickets, staged reading of Oscar-winning screenwriter's play with great actors)
 - ii. "Cinco de Soul" charity ride –May 4 or 5, 4pm (date to be confirmed)
- XII. 9:32 Nominating committee formation (to identify people interested in running for Executive Board of PTA) – need FIVE people (email PTA@ms297nyc.org to sign up)
- XIII. 9:34 Budget committee needs TWO volunteers (see Bob) – this is a very important job
- XIV. 9:35 New Business
 - a. Also seeking VOLUNTEERS: web design, graphic design, auction volunteers
 - b. 11:30 dismissal on March 6th (for Student Led Conferences)
 - c. Ideas for "Spring Collection" merch (speak to Nick or Kim Shay ASAP with ideas)
 - d. Next PTA meeting (3/21/18) is at 6:15 the evening
- XV. 9:47 Adjournment



 SIGNED BY PTA PRESIDENT



 SIGNED BY PTA SECRETARY