

Virtual PA Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, April 28th 2020 @ 7:00p

Zoom Webinar (Register to receive login info)

Thank you for joining our first ever Virtual PA Meeting! We're new at this and are very excited to give it a try. If you have a question, you can submit it through the "comments" section and if you'd like to speak to the group you can "raise hand" so we know you'd like to address the group.

We have a high-level agenda but will keep things pretty fluid.

Note: This meeting was recorded and will be posted on our website.

President's Report

SLT Update:

- No march SLT meeting due to CoVID
- Got agreement from DOE to do virtual April Meeting
 - Ms. Chang outlined how well virtual learning is going as a whole.
 - DOE will be looking at massive budget cuts in the next FY (~100mm across the city)
 - At this time there are no planned layoffs or RIFs for School/BOE personnel.
 - There is currently ambiguity around whether schools will reopen in Sept. This is not up to the DOE or PA or individual Schools. We will let you know as we receive more information.
 - Annex Update:
 - The SCA (School Construction Authority) has begin plans for the Annex Construction. It looks like as of now that project remains intact.
 - Yesterday at SLT, Principal Chang brought up a proposal to repurpose rooms to keep Kindergarten at 85 (instead of moving them to PS 70 as planned and voted on).
 - Principal Chang will take this proposal to the SCA for consideration.
 - Teachers whose rooms are repurposed will push-in (Art, music, etc)
 - Q: Can we start construction earlier?
 - A: It's not up to the school, but is up to the SCA.
 - Please send any questions or concerns about the above SLT update to the PA at execs@ps85pa.org

Treasurers' Report

- (attached separately)
- We made ~\$6k from the Read-a-Thon!

- All programs are paid for this current school year.
- We do have funds collected from the Spring Festival that we need to decide what happens with those.
 - The PA will contact parents who paid in advance to see if they would like a refund or to donate.
 - Lisa will reach out to the Kindergarten class to see what ppl want to do.
- 5th Grade Dues
 - Only ¼ of the 5th-grade students paid.
 - The 5th Grade Committee is meeting Friday, but will likely reach out to families to see if people want refunds.
 - People would need to purchase their own yearbooks online.
 - Cash refunds will need to happen next fall.
 - Q: Can the PA get them yearbooks considering the year they've had?
 - Q: And the Kindergarteners who are graduating?
 - A: Lisa - do the stepping up ceremonies for Kindergarten and PreK when we're back in the fall.

Fundraising Status

- School Supplies
 - The PA would like to fundraise for universal school supplies starting at the beginning of next school year for the 2021/2022 school year.
 - We don't want to fundraise for school supplies for the 2020/2021 school year before we know what's happening with distance learning.
- PA funds have gone to Enrichment for each grade.
 - Art House was able to finish the programming for 2nd and 5th Grade virtually.
 - Noguchi is potentially working on something virtual. We will send more info as we know more.
 - Audubon has just started doing virtual lessons this week (not live) and we're following up with 3rd-grade teachers to ensure those get sent out.
 - Programming for Kindergarten was completed prior to the school closure.
- Comment: Fundraising may be more difficult next year given high levels of unemployment.
- Comment: Also might be good to remind everyone to order using Amazon Smile (the PA will post a reminder about this)

PA Elections for the 2020/2021 School Year

- DOE has said they will give some guidance at some point. Currently virtual elections aren't allowed.
- For now the DOE has asked us to wait and go forward in succession.

Questions and Feedback

- Q: How does this affect funding for the 2020/2021 year?
 - A: The PA is in a good place financially and pending the learning plan for next year we can re-assess the plan for enrichment.
- Q: Grading Policy
 - A: The PA will post the policy from the DOE. It is basically a “do no harm” policy.
 - K-5 is on a “meets standards” or “needs improvement”
- Q: Technology
 - A: The DOE has additional iPads if people need them.
- Q: Teacher appreciation is May 5th, are we doing something for teachers?
 - A: The PA has historically hosted a lunch for teachers and staff. This year we can't do that obviously.
 - Potential ideas: Gift baskets from a local business.
 - Email gift cards for local restaurants
 - Seamless/GrubHub gift cards
 - All of the emails are on Google Classroom.
 - The PA will look into the option of having gift cards to local restaurants emailed to teachers.