

**October 17, 2012 P.S. 334 – The Anderson School
PTA Meeting
Approved Minutes**

1. Attendees: 55 parents
2. Minutes: The September General PTA minutes passed unanimously.
3. Principal's Report: Principal Hyde discussed "Teacher Effectiveness" and a rubric currently being developed to evaluate teaching in NYC
 - a. Anderson is part of the pilot program, so we are beginning to implement the rubric
 - i. Measures many different skills
 - ii. Provides a framework for what is expected from teachers
 - iii. Range is "Ineffective", "Developing", "Effective" and "Highly Effective"
 - iv. It is very difficult to be "Highly Effective" (looking for everyone to be at least "Effective" in most areas)
 - v. In the process of having meetings with teachers to set goals regarding this rubric
 - b. Emphasizing certain skills for professional development this year, e.g. higher level thinking questions for class discussions
 - c. Teachers will also be encouraged to observe each other and share best practices
 - d. Teachers will still be formally evaluated using old system (satisfactory vs. unsatisfactory), but will use this one to improve teaching
4. Treasurers' Report – New independent auditor approved
5. Budget committee nominations were voted upon and all nominees elected. This year's reps are:
 - a. Grades K-2: Greg Fleesler and Elena Miteva
 - b. Grades 3-5: Cindy Parra and Karen Cacace
 - c. Grades 6-8: Janet Manabat and Laura Mount
6. Fundraising:
 - a. Photo Day raised over \$15k – thanks to Kevin McCormick who donates all the proceeds to the school
 - b. Halloween Movie Night tonight (10/19)
 - c. Other upcoming events –
 - i. Thanksgiving Eve (11/21)
 - ii. Kid Art (12/1)
 - d. More volunteers needed to help sell Anderson merchandise at events
7. Direct Appeal:
 - a. Meet the Teacher Night surpassed both dollar and participation goals

- b. Raffles were drawn for the 3 iPad Minis and winners announced
8. Auction:
- a. The Auction is April 13th and the theme is “Saturday Night Auction Fever”
 - b. Need lots of help, so please volunteer. 7th Grade still needs an auction rep
 - c. Solicitations needed
 - d. Online auction of clearance items from last year will start next week
9. Election of Kindergarten Reps
- a. Dan Nemo, Danny Katz, and Llene Molina McGrade were elected
 - b. Bylaws were amended to allow for 3, rather than 2
10. Community Affairs:
- a. The G&T Admissions policy has changed
 - i. New test will be used
 - ii. Sibling preference disappears, except in “tie-breaker” situations
 - b. Community Affairs team is coordinating our school’s parent response and working with parents from other G&T schools on this issue
11. Presentation by SLT rep
- a. Have reviewed CEP goals from last year, which were all met.
 - b. Discussion of last spring’s homework survey.
 - i. 40% of families returned the survey
 - ii. Differing views presented
 - iii. Homework will not be counted in students’ grades
 - iv. Some kids were up all night doing homework, and as a result a lot of parents were actually doing their kids’ homework
 - v. Unclear as to what is “homework” vs. “a project”
 - c. Discussion of grading of reading levels
 - i. Graded against Anderson standards
 - ii. Not everyone gets a “4” in reading
 - iii. Students are expected to move forward based on their level
 - iv. Issue has been raised as to whether we have the money for a reading specialist
 - d. Physical Education is on SLT agenda, as many children are taught at the same time and range of activities is limited.
12. Adjournment: We adjourned at 9:55 am.