

PTA Executive Board Meeting – February 5, 2013 – Approved Minutes

Attendees: 14 Executive Board members

The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm.

I. SLT: Mindy Wigutow (PTA Rep to the SLT) reported that:

a. CEP goals: The CEP goals that the SLT submitted were accepted by the DOE.

b. Testing: There was discussion at the SLT on preparing the 3rd and 2nd graders how to take tests, curriculum, and homework in the style of test. There won't be "test prep," only a focus on how to answer the questions.

c. Grading policy, homework policy: The policies have not been determined yet. Teachers looked at all grades from last year and this year and there were no irregularities.

d. Test Re-take: There is an issue with a 3rd grade teacher last year who is under investigation about a test. Parents were concerned that the students took a second assessment – it was a pre-acuity test.

e. Ms. Dina: Ms. Dina, who provided choral accompaniment, will be leaving the school. The choral has been re-done and they no longer need her. We will recognize her long-standing service with a gift card.

II. President's Report: Joy Heinze (Co-President) gave the President's report:

a. Building Council meeting: It was determined that the KidFit and KidCreate money will go towards the playground drawing. There will be a bake sale among 3 schools. We also plan to have an equipment swap and Zumba class. Possible sponsors include Yorkville Youth Athletic Association and Modell's.

We also plan to have an end-of-year party with P.S. 452. We will not water dunking due to liability.

b. Reso A grant application: We are applying for a Reso A grant to paint the auditorium.

c. Budgets: We expect 4.5% cuts for part of the budget. Effective 2/1, aides will be cut by 30 minutes. We discussed how to help the administration analyze costs in order to defend the cuts.

d. Earth Day: The Green Committee is working on getting an Eco Van, science projects, and other green events for an Earth Day celebration.

e. Edutainment: In June, we have issues with finding fun things to do in the classroom. We have some great ideas, such as a scavenger hunt, a group coming in to do hands on experiments, circus in the schools, career day, a 7th & 8th grade world science festival in the school, anti-bullying, game show, time management.

f. Journal: We got some quotes for art directors to help create the journal this year.

g. Minutes: The January EB minutes were unanimously approved.

h. Auction: The donation deadline was extended to 2/22. The auction projects well on their way to being done by the 3/1 deadline. We got a donation of 18 frames from the Guggenheim for the project.

i. Next PTA mtg: The next general PTA meeting is 2/6 at 8:30am.

III. Community Affairs: Joli Golden (VP, Community Fairs) gave us an update:

a. Playground Architect: We have a Reso A grant to resurface and paint the schoolyard, but we would like to hire a Playground Architect to design it and take full advantage of the space. The grant does not include this fee. As mentioned, we will use the proceeds from the building-wide KidCreate and KidFit events. We don't know how much the proceeds will be. Joli made a motion to add a line item of a one-time capital improvement expense to pay this architect, up to \$7,100. It was voted unanimously with 1 abstention.

IV. Fundraising:

a. Earth Day/Movie Night: We plan to have a movie night on 4/26, showing "The Lorax." We plan to sell lunchskins and water bottles. In May, we will show "Avatar" for older kids with student council.

b. VH1 Save the Music: This event will be on March 9th.

V. New Business: Amy Davidson (VP, Fundraising) spoke about some improvements to consider for the gym:

a. Backboards: Momotion rents the gym on weekends. They are willing to replace the backboards, which need to be removed for safety reasons, but they would have to raise \$5K with the other leagues.

b. Re-draw lines: We would like to redraw the lines to optimize the space and add more room

c. Clock: Someone tried to repair the clock, but it would be better to get a remote control to the clock with a console. It's a hazard now, because kids trip over cord. And when this happens, it resets the score. It would cost \$15K.

It's very inexpensive for these leagues to rent the gym. They pay the DOE directly. We should solicit these leagues for donations, since they will benefit from these improvements.

VI. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.