

PS110 - PTA MEETING

MAY 2nd, 2018

In Attendance

Amy Chalkley, Parent Coordinator

Emily, PTA Co-Treasurer

Tiffaney McCannon, PTA President

Shelly, PTA Secretary

Mary, PTA Co-President

16 Parents

Annie, PTA Co-Treasurer

TIFFANEY

We are going to get started because we have all kinds of fun stuff going on today. Ms Cano is doing testing right now and Amy is going to cover the principal's report.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - AMY CHALKLEY

So really the only update is really what I said at the last PTA meeting is about the SLT, the school leadership team. There are now two spots that will be open to parents and now there are elections for those spots. Those will happen in June after the PTA election today.

PARENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT - AMY CHALKLEY

Tonight is family night and we are actually going to have it outside in the school yard because it's a beautiful evening. It will be in the Monitor schoolyard. We are having McCarren Tennis coming. They will be setting up some little nets and bringing rackets and doing little demos. We'll also have Williamsburg Mixed Martial Arts and they will also be doing a little demo. We will also have a potluck so bring something yummy and we can chat about more school stuff.

If you are a family that has a Pre-K or K child, we do meet and greets at the end of the school year to sort of have you meet the teachers briefly. It's really more like an informal, the teachers come and they will give you a day in the life of pre-K or a day in the life of kindergarten and I do a little slide show and show some picture and run through the day

and then a little question-answer. The kindergarden one is going to happen in the next few weeks. I'm just trying to firm up a date. Then the Pre-K one will most likely going to happen on June 11th. The kids aren't in school that day but you are welcome to bring your kid but the teachers are here. Does anyone have any questions?

Q: Do you know when the Pre-K announcements go out?

AMY So I believe, Tara told me yesterday that she should have everyone registered by the 8th. So that means the announcements will have to probably be going out around like the 15th of May. Between then and the following week. And then you'll have a couple of weeks to register them. Anyone else? If you think of anything else afterwards, I'm here and you can ask me.

EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS - TIFFANEY

So we are going to go ahead and do the executive board elections. It is uncontested and when that happens we can just vote by show of hands. We don't have to have a ballot. I am going to turn it over to Yuli and Sunny.

YULI

So we have co-chairs for each position. Our co-presidents are Shannon Claire from Pre-K and Rob from Pre-K also. Then Shelly and Stephanie are going to be co-secretaries. And then we have Yasmine who's child will be in Pre-K next year and David for co-treasurers. So do we vote now? So, show of hand for Shannon and Rob. Show of hands for Stephanie and Shelly. And show of hands for Yasmine and David. Ok, that was easy.

TIFFANEY

Thank you very much. So as of July 1 these guys will be taking over so we can release with love, love and distance. I'm just kidding. We're here to support you. I am super excited that we have two men on our executive board that's really exciting. I don't know if we ever had, oh Michael was a treasure a couple of years ago. So, so it's exciting that we have some dads involved and congratulations to those of you, the new executive board.

SLT ELECTIONS - TIFFANEY

As Amy had mentioned, the SLT elections are coming up there are two positions for parents and also the co-presidents sit on the SLT is well. Shannon and Robbie will be sitting on that. We're gonna do right now is we're gonna take nominations from the floor. If anybody is interested in being on the school leadership team. It is the governing body of

the school. We work on our CEP the community education plan. Oh, I'm really good at butcher this. So anyway, if you want more information about the SLT and what it does in the school you can speak to Ms Cano and you can also look it up online.

ANNIE

I've been on the SLT for two or three years now. I think that one of the things that is very interesting about it is that it really provide you with an opportunity to learn a little bit about what the teachers and Ms Cano and Ms Raciunus have to deal with in terms of the Department of Education and some of the restrictions that they have on or why certain decisions are made or processes and communication. So it can be a pretty informative and pretty interesting. Sometimes those issues can be frustrating but it is at a really interesting way to learn a little bit more about what kind of goes on behind the scenes. There are a couple teachers on the panel that that's also great to have that level of interaction and hearing thoughts and ideas and input from the teachers in a way that you might not as just a parents talking to your teacher in the classroom. It also is a form to ask some questions and provide your own input. It doesn't necessarily feel like "oh I'm really making these decisions" but you do get to provide input and there really are some decisions that are made in these forms. For example, we might have a discussion on "this year our enrollment might be high enough to have an extra cluster teacher". So one conversation we would have in SLT is what kind of cluster teacher would the school like to have. Would we like to have a second art teacher so that art can happen five days a week and kids can have more than one art class every other semester or would we like another cluster teacher. That's an example of a conversation might have an SLT and that the decisions really are based on that sort of input.

Q: What is the time commitment is?

It's one meeting a month and it's usually an hour and sometimes it's not even an hour. This year we had them at 4 o'clock on Mondays but they do try to work with everyone schedules. There was a previous year when we had them at 2:30 which was really horrible for me. It can't have them too late or too early because it requires teachers to be there so they have to have it outside of the teaching hours but try not to have them too late to that teachers are hanging around till 5 or 6 o'clock at the meeting. Then you have to volunteer 30 hours. If you're on the PTA there's probably 10 hours right there for the meetings that you attend and if you're involved in the PTA in a small way it's not hard to rack up 30 hours. Hopefully that's helpful. It's been a good experience for me.

TIFFANEY

Yes thank you so much Annie. You were very clear and articulate. So we are going to have an election next month. So right now we are going to be taking nominations from the floor. You can be nominated or you can nominate yourself. Does anybody want to run for the SLT, I do. I was on the SLT this year and it was a really cool experience and I still wanna be plugged in and like a monthly I think I can do that. There are two spots but we can have 20 people voted on by the parents so feel free if this is something that you really want to do. By all means nominate yourself or ask the person next to you "nominate me".

PARENTS

Hannah, I nominate Hannah. Me too.

TIFFANEY

It's for one year. Does anyone else want to run.

ANNIE

I would totally do it again but I also feel like if there's other parents that wants to have the opportunity then they should be able to do that. I think I've been on it for three years.

STEPHANIE

I would be interested but not this year because I want to get the hang of the secretary position with Shelly.

TIFFANEY

There will be election again next year. One other thing is that our SLT meetings are open to the public so if you ever want to come to. Yuli is a champ. She comes to almost all the SLT meeting. So if you guys are ever curious like, I don't know if I can commit to it this year. Come to a meeting. There's a lot of information being passed around at these meetings anyway and I highly recommend checking it out. So, anyone else? If you leave this meeting and you're like and I really kind of want to run for this. Reach out to the PTA and we will put you on the ballot.

BOOK FAIR RECAP -TIFFANEY

Book fair recap, Shelly do you want it?

SHELLY

So Stephane and Agnes did an awesome job. The place looks fabulous. I don't know if you guys came to the parent mornings and the Wednesday evening but it was a great success. I don't have any numbers with me right now but yeah we went back to the bookstore twice to get more books so that's awesome. So we've upped the budget for next year for more books. We've also included the idea of a book fair on the multicultural holiday fair. So while you're waiting for Santa there will be a book fair with french and english books, which was also their request. They said a lot of the french parents want to get french books but it's hard. So there will be an extra day of shopping for books in December. There was also the used books which was awesome because every single kid left the book fair with a book even if the parents forgot money or couldn't afford books. A lot of that are left over books that we all gave will go to PS23 and the french books we are going to distribute to the french teachers, if they need. We had a total of profit of \$1775. That represents over \$8000 of books sales, so 20% of that goes to the school. It's an awesome way to get kids into a bookstore if they don't have a chance to do that.

TIFFANEY

It's an awesome service that we were able to provide to our students and our teachers. The fact that we make a little money on top of it is gravy. Because the whole point of having it, like with Word, we use to pair with Word Bookstore and working with Green Light Books has been such a joy, because Word wanted to do it in-house so you'd have to go to the store to do the book fair. It kind of broke our hearts because we have many students that have never been to a bookstore. They don't get to go to the library regularly. So the fact that we are able to provide that to the kids is awesome and again the fact that we make some money with it is just like gravy. Thank you very much. I'm gonna turn it over to Shannon she's going to talk about the Yankee Stadium day but she is also going to talk about the budget for next year. Shannon she got experience with the budget this year that she's going to be handling next year.

YANKEE'S DAY - SHANNON

Quickly with the Yankee's day, thank you to everyone who bought tickets. It's should be really fun. They are going to put Welcome PS110 on the jumbotron in the 5th inning. We sold 80 tickets in two weeks which is very good. They couldn't have been nicer. I think that we will even have nice baseball weather which is amazing.

BUDGET - SHANNON

We don't have a projector so I will just give you some highlights from this very exciting document. First, it was really amazing how many people come through with their comments and input. I want to thank everyone who chaired something and came to remind us of what they needed for next year.

We are being pretty aggressive with our goals for our Funraiser. We are counting on making as much as this year. We made \$55,000 this year. So we are projecting \$55,000 next year and I have full confidence that we can do it.

We doubled the amount that we are going to give to the teachers next year. This year it averaged out to about \$100. The tax codes are changing and the teachers will no longer be able to write off the supplies that they buy themselves next year. So we doubled the amount that we are giving the teachers and we will likely give it to them at the beginning of the year when they are doing the bulk of their buying.

We also add another book fair and we are going to reboot the merch next year. We are kicking around the idea of maybe having a little shop for the merch so that people can buy on a regular basis. Which hopefully can increase our profit from that. Our art teacher got her masters degree which is wonderful. She costs more now. But that's great, these are things that we are happy to support.

Despite the fact that our expense have gone up we do you have projected surplus next year because everybody's worked so hard we think that we will still have \$2800 left after everything. Which is really amazing because we support and incredible amount of things in this school. As Tiffany has told you, all the arts programs are run by funds that the PTA raises. It's incredibly impressive. Those are the highlights. I'm not going to do line by line.

TIFFANEY

So next month, we will have a projector just because they're testing up in the auditorium. I remember when my first year here and I was really involved in the PTA and I didn't realize everything the PTA paid for until I saw that budget in front of me up on the screen. It's so important to see that and I was like "wow I had no idea" and so many people around me were like "I had no idea we paid for all of this stuff". So it's just it's really important so that

people know what we're paying for and hopefully as were able to streamline fundraising activities that we can pay for more.

SHANNON

And the WITS program. Whatever we raised from the fundraiser and also there is some grant money coming. I think that the kids had cooking lessons this week, today, tomorrow, and Friday.

FLEUR

I got a text from my friend asking what school Clark was in and when I said PS110 she said "I'm there this week, teaching the kids tastings". She is really incredible.

AMY

I think that Fran sent an email out, it may have been just to the Green-Wellness committee. If you are around wednesday, thursday, and friday from 9 to 12, she was looking for parent volunteers. But she was looking for two parent volunteers to help out.

Q: Who is getting the classes, all the kids?

AMY I think that it might be first through fifth.

TIFFANEY

Hannah will will talk about that when we get to the Green-Wellness. Hannah's hard work really, the green wellness committee really hit a homerun on WITS. We are going to give Hannah an opportunity to talk about it and fill you guys in on what's going on because it happened really fast and was like are we doing this and we did anything. Anything else? I am going to turn it over to Yuli with the Advocacy committee.

ADVOCACY - YULI

We have a new chancellor, Robert Corenza. He seems really great. He seems really eager. He has addressed issues already in his short four weeks. I've heard from some principles and education stakeholders that they really like him so far so that's encouraging. He is stepping into some areas so far like working on desegregating schools and integrating schools in terms of diversity. That's great so far and we will see what actually follows.

Q: Do you know why the other chancellor stepped down? This is the new new chancellor.
YULI I don't. I don't know if. He never really started. He was from Florida. Corenza is from Texas. The CEC meeting is at IS71 One world campus in room 238 and that's next week. It's great that at the last meeting they actually had a public speaking time that's required. They haven't had it for like the last three CEC meetings. If you would like to say something or just ask a question. They are holding those public sessions.

TIFFANEY

Thanks to Yuli they are holding these public sessions. Do you want to talk about the breakfast.

YULI

Oh yeah, so the breakfast. The advocacy committee is holding a breakfast to invite education stakeholders and community members like the superintendent Winnicky, CEC members, local organizations who have supported the school over the years. Just as an appreciation and to sort of give them a tour of the school and show them that this is how your support has helped us. These are the smart boards that your funding allowed us to purchase. That's on May 21st. It's a Monday morning and it starts at nine. It's not going to be open to the public per se.

TIFFANEY

It's not gonna be open to the public but if you want to be a parent representative and come. One of the reasons why we're doing this is because we just want stay in their radar. Just somebody like Joe Lentell, a meeting with him last year help fund our air-conditioners so like the actual units because participatory budgeting only payed for the wiring. So the meeting with him helped bring that about. The more we stay on their radar when something comes across their desk they can say "oh yeah, PS110. That's a nice school". We just wanna stay on there be a radar and build a relationship.

Q: So how long will it be?

YULI So like 9am and I think we'll be done by like 10:15 or 10:30 at the latest.

TIFFANEY So the sock hop, Amy do you want to talk about the sock hop?

SOCK HOP - AMY

This will be our third year. Ms Cano had an idea. She wanted to do Sock Hops for the 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders after testing is done to sort of give them a release and a little celebration. So what we have been doing Tiffany, myself, and Jody is we create playlists.

We give the kids a sheet and they write down the music that they like and we create a playlist. They bring all the food and then we have basically a dance party. It's the week of the 21st. We usually get third, fourth, and fifth grade parents to help out. We like the kids to get crazy but not too crazy and make sure there is still being safe. We get a pogo stick and do all kinds of dances. We do the macarena and things like that. A little whip a nae nae.

TIFFANEY

It is an amazing thing to see like an entire class like doing whipping the nae nae. If you'd like to volunteer for that like it's a ton fun and you can pay it forward. I know a lot of you have younger kids but it's really an awesome thing to see.

AMY

Jody's daughter will be graduating this year so next year we will be looking for somebody else to spearhead it. It's pretty in place. We have the pdf that we update and send out for the kids. And then we have to make the playlists

TIFFANEY

Yeah, I've got the playlists covered. Note to self, for any of you that are running committees or even the new executive board, when we send out this letter about the Sock Hop and we had the kids. We had to have the parents volunteer and also make some food and at the bottom where they "Ok"ed and volunteered then your three favorite songs would be used. I want to say we got a 92% of those forms back and usually if we get like maybe 30 back we're lucky. But seriously almost every one of those forms came back so if you're wanting to get more responses from your parents like get creative and if you involve the kids. They will be like "you have to do this" in the bathtub.

BORDER CROSSERS WORKSHOP - TIFFANEY

So the school is going to be offering a border crossers workshop. Yuli can you speak to the Boardercross? It is a two hour workshop that we're going to be offering and the hope is, you will definitely be more articulate than me about on the border crossers, but what we hope is that we're gonna start a conversation with this border crossers workshop. Next year we are implementing a new culturally responsive teaching. We will also start a book club including Ms Cano so if anybody wants to learn about this culturally responsive teaching, there's gonna be a book club and discussions about it. That is something that Ms Cano wants to set forth for next year. So Yuli can you talk about Border Crossers.

YULI

My husband and I actually took a Border Crossers day-long workshop last year. They talked about issues of race, discrimination and equity. It was just a really great way to start a conversation. So Border Crossers is a non-profit and they do these kind of trainings for educators and for parents. They cover topics like how to talk to your children about race and institutionalized racism, etc. It's really awesome that this workshop will be presented here. It's just a two hour workshop but it's still better than nothing. If you have questions or wonder how you can talk to your kids or even to your educators about race and what kind of curriculum they are using or how they are addressing issues of implicit bias. And you also get to talk to other parents about it.

TIFFANEY

We don't have a date yet but we will announce that soon. It is for parents and it will be announced I'm hoping, today's Wednesday, by the end of the week if not the first part of next week and will start advertising. The school is paying for it. It's a gift to the parents. It will be in the morning but it won't be during a PTA meeting. It will be separate. It's Ms Cano and Ms Raciunus. It is something that we try to bring last year and we wrote a grant for it and it didn't get it accepted. Our grant wasn't excepted and a Yuli has been working on it this year. So, Hannah.

GREEN-WELLNESS - HANNAH

We raised over during an auction for WITS next year, which is awesome. We are in conversation with this organisation. Our ideal was to go for their flagship program which is a chef in the school full-time, teaching our cafeteria staff, working with kids. We might, it turns out, not have enough space for that but they are going to work with us to sort of create a custom package for us of what we would like to happen including tastings in classrooms and professional development for our staff. Ms Raciunus had some money that she needed to spend rather quickly which is why WITS is here this week. Which is super awesome. So we are going to get a literal and figurative taste of what we can go for for next year.

The two other things that the wellness committee is working on is outdoor learning and environmental education. It's Pre-k, because they have a para and a teacher they can pretty much go outside anytime. So they have been doing a ton of outdoor learning.

We are working on a postcard that we will distribute to the whole Greenpoint community including all of the other schools in our area. About lead awareness and lead in soil. Fran and Laurie are spearheading this with tons of help from Mishi and other parents who are doing some design work. Basically, it's a postcard explaining how children can play safely in dirt in Greenpoint. We have really high levels of lead in this neighborhood. We don't want to scare anyone away from outdoor play. So the angle is very much "Get outside and play and here is how you can do it safely." We will potentially have tens of thousands of them made and we are going to try to blanket the neighborhood and our community.

VOLUNTEER BREAKFAST - TIFFANEY

Our volunteer breakfast is coming up. We're gonna have it on June 14th. That's a Thursday. We also have the kindergartens Latin dance starting at 9am and then we have the first grade is drumming performance, culminating performance at 10am. Both on the 14th. So please, if your children are performing that day please come in and stop by and have a coffee. It will start at 8:15 the volunteer breakfast and it will go in till 9:30. So stop by grab some coffee and celebrate a job well done. We're celebrating our volunteers and it's Flag Day.

FUN!RUN - TIFFANEY

The Fun!run is coming up on May 29. Pledge sheets will be going out soon as well as permission slips and a postcard will all be going out soon. We will be giving away prizes for most school spirit, best hair, wackiest costume. Does anybody have questions about the Fun!run. It's a great opportunity. We need a ton of volunteers. The date was changed. We were going to have it at 11:30 and now we went back to 830 because we seriously need about 100 volunteers. The Fun!run is on a Tuesday. It's the Tuesday after Memorial Day.

Q: Do volunteers have to run?

TIFFANEY No, volunteers don't have to run but wear your running clothes. We will put you where the need is. One thing we want to do is, because the track is big, we want parents every 20 feet to cheer the kids on. Last year there was an accident a girl cracked her head open. We really want to make sure that every part of the track has eyes. Because we also need to keep our kids safe. So if you see something you need to say something like "hey that's not appropriate" if like somebody's holding onto somebody's shirt tails. We will make a track. So we need to keep them on the track and so that was just a suggestion from last year.

Q: Volunteers are needed from 8:30am until what time?

TIFFANEY From 8:30 am. If you can volunteer an hour that would be great if you could volunteer more that's great. Until 11:30 am. So 8:30 am on May 29. All the kids run from Pre-K to fifth and do it in shifts. It was intense last year to see the kids but we have no idea but they all ran so hard and they took it seriously. I had parents come up to me afterwards and saying that there kids were still sore like four days later because they were running so hard. It was a really awesome event. We will be doing balloon arches again because the kids really love running through the balloons. So that is coming up so if you're looking for the last hurrah to volunteer for. It's so much fun and you get to be out in the park with your kids and it's a really joyous event.

Q: So how do we sponsor, per lap?

TIFFANEY So what happens is that kids bring home pledge sheets and people can and be careful because my sister does this in Iowa and I gave \$10 like per lap and he ran 11 laps like I had no idea but I guess in my mind I was thinking of just donating \$10 but no, I did put it under the laps. So either way, like a dollar a lap is really reasonable. Ideally, we would love it if the kids could raise 20 bucks apiece. We're trying to raise \$12,000 through this last year we raised \$13,000 but that was also with sponsor money as well. So what happens is that somebody can either say I'll give you 20 bucks for doing that or I'll give you \$.50 a lap or a dollar a lap. Then as the kids come around, last year they had like pieces of paper with like tally marks we'd cross them out and it was a nightmare. This year they're gonna have lanyards and they get scanned with our phones as they go around. Then it's automatically computed then we'll have the totals and then we send the totals to the kids and they collect the money.

Q: Will there be an electronic way for people to donate?

TIFFANEY We do have an electronic way and that will go out. You can donate through New York Charities which we did that last year and I think we brought in almost \$4000 just on New York Charities.

Q: Does each grade go at a different time?

TIFFANEY Yes, each grade goes at a different time.

Q: Are we doing business sponsors again this year?

TIFFANEY We are doing business sponsors, yes. Erica the chair of this committee she has the letter so if you want to be on the Fun!Run committee please send it email to the PTA email and I will forward it to Erica. She didn't want to create a special email.

So Pre-K is running at 8:45, Kindergarten and third the running at 9:30, first and second they're running at 10:15 and fourth and fifth are running at 11. That will also be posted as wele. We could really use your help because we want to keep our kids safe. We're gonna be working with teachers and one thing that we are doing is that every classroom will have a parent volunteer, That parent volunteer will go get the kids help them to get their lanyards on bring them down to where they're running and have them run and get them back to their classroom. One parent volunteers and then the teachers will be coming down as well. The one parent volunteer so we need 23 parent volunteers just for that. But last year we didn't have parent volunteers and there were some classes that thought that someone was going to come and get them. We're just really trying to keep the lines of communication clear and we hope that by each classroom having a parent volunteer that will be good. No, you do not have to run but you are responsible for every kid in that classroom. Annie, treasurer's report.

TREASURER'S REPORT - ANNIE

There is not that much of a treasurer's report since Shannon presented the budget. I guess just that we're continuing with the audit. Now that it's past the April 30, that's the ending of the audit period. It's May 1st to April 30 so we will get the audit committee the remaining April documents so that can be finished. So you guys will have the joy of listening to the audit report and the budget report at the next meeting. I think when we do the budget we will just do a rundown of actuals for this year against the budget so that there's some contexts there and just so actually we know how we are doing this year.

Q: When is the next PTA meeting?

TIFFANEY The next meeting is Wednesday June 6th. You guys will run your first PTA meeting in September. You guys take over July 1 official. So you start answering emails at that time. When you can come to the executive board meeting will make suggestions, like I know 84 they have a recording secretary and then they have a corresponding secretary that helps with the emails and things like. So you guys can set it up however like especially that the executive board is stacked for next year. Having an extra body will mean so much for sure. OK, do we have any other committee.

SHANNON: I just want to speak about the Pre-K outdoor classes. I am one of the people running the garden classes. Laurie has a second child at home so she can't get to everyone. It's Monday there is a 9:30 (pre-k 105) class and a 10:05 (pre-k 101) class. Wednesday is the trickier one. There is a 9:30 (pre-k 103) and a 10:05 (pre-k 102) and

then a 1:35 (pre-k 104). If you want to volunteer for the morning one or the afternoon one. The teachers picked the syllabus. Each week we break it down into a lesson plan that works for their age so that we can split them on both halves of the garden. It's really pretty simple, it's just a matter of having an extra set of hands and eyes so that we can get them to pay attention. The last class will be June 4th because they will miss a Monday class because of Memorial Day. If you are interested you have my email and we will set it up.

TIFFANEY

Awesome, so does anybody have anything that they want to talk about school related not school related, personally.

Q: Anyone know anything about the milk situation at the school cafeteria? My son use to get milk and now he doesn't anymore?

AMY The office of school lunch staffs the cafeteria and we have a new manager. What the old manager told us is different from what the new manager told us. The manager's manager was there and so I asked her. We have free school lunch and anyone can have free school lunch but you can only take a milk if you take free school lunch. If you bring home lunch you can't take a milk.

TIFFANEY

Yes OK great. Can we get the April minutes approved. All in favor of approving the minutes. OK great thank you so much. We have one more PTA meeting for the year.