

2020-2021 P.S./I.S. 217 PTA General Meeting Minutes

12.9.20 |7:30PM via Zoom | Meeting called to order by Andrea Davey, co president
Minutes by Kimberly Brownrell, co secretary

- The minutes were read and approved from the November 2020 meeting.

Announcements

- Minutes will now regularly be posted prior to meeting as well as in the chat (link provided) for members to read and approve.
- The food pantry at Senior Center (456 Main Street) on RI, 4-6:30 p.m.

Minutes

- **Treasurers' financial report by Oliver Christ:**
 - Highlights of prior expenses and income since start of school year
 - November balance sheet results
 - Mr. Christ requested a pre-approval for funds for various expenses (report attached)
 - **A motion approving to spend for the current expenses made by co president Eirik Gislason which was unanimously approved by the PTA.**
- **Principal Report by Mandana Beckman and Jennifer Allen:**
 - Ms. Beckman reviewed the protocol when there are positive COVID cases at 217: the situation room is contacted as soon as we find out for detailed contact tracing and then they determine the next steps (classroom closed, school closed, letters sent out to parents, etc.). Ms. Beckman then took questions regarding COVID procedures.
 - Ms. Allen provided an update regarding substitute teachers, a reduced number in general due to the pandemic and location. The school is actively speaking with district leadership to help in recruitment and a solution. The desire is to have a teacher in some capacity teaching and perhaps kids moved to a safe large space (i.e., gym, cafeteria, or auditorium) for a shared "classroom" set-up.
 - A sensory path/walk proposal was presented by Jennifer Allen which provided an overview of the tool and how PSIS 217 could benefit from the sensory-motor walk. A boost in gross motor activity and improved focus and attention in the classroom. The focus grades being Pre-K through 6th grade.
 - Decals/stickers on the floor and/or walls (walls omitted for now) to increase spatial awareness, hand-eye coordination, motor skills, etc. Can customize for different age groups, use our school colors, incorporate SEL, reading skills, etc.

for 5% of order revenue back to 217. Members highlighted that in the past not all buildings were included in deliveries due to the location on the island. In addition, members questioned if this would include the upper east side. Ms. Ornstein said she would follow up but UES delivery is unlikely.

- **A motion approving the Bareburger partnership was made by co president Eirik Gislason and was unanimously approved by the PTA.**
- Ms. Ornstein provided an update on the spring auction. The PTA will move it online to March or April. Ms. Ornstein encouraged members to start asking for donations.
- Ms. Ornstein noted the following coming down the pipeline for 2021: monthly community-building events (virtual or in-person), valentines craft, cooking night, lecture topics (ex.: sleeping habits, parenting during a pandemic), farmers market, international cookbook, book fair (May), online auction, virtual talent show
- Volunteers are needed for the followings for events. Please use the volunteer participation form (in chat) or email PTA. Ex. of needed positions on committees: Christmas tree sales
- Spirit Store:
 - New items coming: pom pom hats and zip-up hoodies. Volunteers needed to help upgrade Hawks logo, etc.
- **Vice President Report by Angela Fekete and Sarah Ting:**
 - Ms. Fekete provided an update on the gifts for teachers: pom pom hat + moleskine notebook.
 - **A motion approving the proposed teacher gifts made by co-president Eirik Gislason which was unanimously approved by the PTA**

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.