



## Executive PTA Meeting - Minutes

December 14, 2016

Approval of minutes.

President's Report

### **Fundraising Committee:**

- We are still bringing in funds from the direct appeal.
- There are two new costs – including a recess program and teacher assistants. \$21,600 to cover the cost of two new 1<sup>st</sup> grade assistant teachers; the recess program (called Deer Mountain) which will start in January costs approximately \$50,000 for the whole year, this year it will cost us \$10,000 (both of these costs will come out of the direct appeal) – that will leave us with approximately \$24,000. It is suggested that we earmark that money for next year to make these two programs more sustainable.
- We will have a meeting of the various committees that support school residencies (STEM, Arts included).
- We will have a pop up shop this week and next week, selling school items (t-shirts and holiday cards) and will partner with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **Principal's Report (lead by VP):**

- We will go visit tomorrow another school that uses the recess program we will be using.
- Our school has been selected for the School Mental Health Program (part of Thrive NYC – to promote mental health in NYC) – will provide training to staff, share resources and fill gaps where identified. We are working on workshops for teachers and parents focused on managing stress. The half days will be February 17<sup>th</sup> (Friday before break) and April 7<sup>th</sup> (the Friday before Spring Break).
- Marissa has been brought on to make sure professional development continue to move – SPO (is a way to update or change our current contract) – we're asking that two days this school year will be changed to half days, and will be used for PD for teachers. We'll use them to build dealing with conflict skills. We should mention this at the general meeting.

### **Parent Coordinator Report:**

- We will need approximately \$400 to build a box for children to return library books. Heather will find and locate a parent to build the box for the lobby area.
- Bulletin boards looks great. There were up in time for our open house – parents gave a good report during the open house – the next one is on January 10<sup>th</sup>. It was suggested that we should add a line to the budget for bulletin board upkeep at \$1,000 a year.
- PS 261 Care/Gives – the Pre K chose PS 261 Cares to give to and will go toward the snowflake program. We can also use the funds to cover the costs of a child that attends the Robot Foundry (they are giving us a slot for a child in need).



- The new and revised PS 261 Family Handbook is out and has been given to children to take home.

**New Business:**

- Discussion about the soundproofing – for the art room and auditorium. We should move forward in getting a cost so that we understand what it will cost and can put it in the budget for next school year.
- Executive Board for 2016-2017 – we will need to recruit for president, secretary and treasurer. There is a suggestion to have 2 persons in each role. It will support a smooth transition.