

PTA Meeting
October 30, 2018

1. Greet the person next to you and say what you like most about the school.
2. Reading last meeting's minutes (Lectura del acta de la reunion)
3. Treasurer's Report (Reporte de Tesoreria)
 - a. Using new program to track budget
 - b. Not much financial activity for September
 - c. Not included in the budget we voted on last month → bake sale / booth along the marathon route (noise-makers, coffee, snacks, bake sale). Vote on this? Is anyone interested in spearheading this for Sunday's marathon? Or should we wait for next year?
 - d. Olivia mentions that Marathon morning there are several masses and 4th Ave right in front of St. Michael's is very crowded and might not be a great place for a booth.
 - e. Serafin says maybe on 43rd right off 4th?
 - f. If we are ok to set it up by 36th St, Claudia can lead it with the use of the PTA coffee urn.
 - g. Vote on the fundraiser idea → VOTED IN!
 - h. Courtney will put it up on Facebook.
4. President's Report (Reporte de Presidente)
 - a. Website has been updated!! Check it out! ps516.org
 - b. 5 core values of school have been updated – Teachers took a lot of time and discussion to narrow it down to what is most important to them. Next steps are to figure out how to make these things very visible and relevant to students and entire community. One of the next steps is the "Core Value Council" who will be working on making the values come alive within the school.
 - i. Creativity
 - ii. Curiosity
 - iii. Inclusivity
 - iv. Integrity
 - v. Resilience
 - c. Updated Policy from Parent Handbook – Birthday Policy. Bday parties were taking away instructional time. Also, there was a lot of inequity. And, kids were getting a LOT of sugar. However, we DO want to celebrate birthdays. The compromise put forth by SLT was a monthly birthday celebration. If parents want, they can come by and bring a non-food item (like stickers) or healthy snack (like fruit).
 - d. One available seat on SLT! One nomination: Tori Messina. Voted in!
5. Upcoming Events (Proximos Eventos)
 - a. Fall in the Garden – This Friday, 11/2, 4-5
 - b. Marathon Viewing Party – Sunday 9:30
 - c. P/T Conferences – Thurs 11/15 (will be half day)
 - d. School Dance – 12/6 (grades 2-5) and 12/7 (grades Pre-K-1) Time TBD
 - e. Pajama Jam – Thurs 12/13 – Read Aloud & Milk and Cookies

6. Ms. Smith & Ms. Knudson – Title I
 - a. We have a Title I Schoolwide Program
 - b. Title I is a national, federal law and mandate that gives additional money to schools with high levels of students who qualify for free and reduced lunch.
 - c. To qualify, you need to have 60% Free and Reduced Lunch. Last year, we were at 84%.
 - d. Title I comes from wanting to have a little more equity for schools with large populations of children who come from lower socio-economic levels and thus don't have the resources that schools with more affluent populations may have
 - e. At the bottom line, Title I is about improving student performance.
 - f. Title I started in the 1960s (ESEA → NCLB → ESSA)
 - g. ESSA tries to give schools more flexibility with Title I funds
 - h. Schoolwide Program (SWP) means that this extra money goes to ALL students in the school to ensure ALL students are growing academically.
 - i. Parent and Family Engagement Policy → School-Parent Compact in the CEP – Something families and the school write together outlining the responsibilities of the school, the parents, and the students.
 - j. Title I 1% set-aside Funds – a little over \$3,000. A committee of parents decides how to spend this money.
 - k. Parents' Right to Know – As parents of a child at a Title I school, you have the right to request to know the qualifications of your child's teacher.
7. Ashley from Academy for Medical and Health Services (AMPHS) – Nonprofit – at 5306 3rd Ave, 2nd floor.
 - a. Only ask for name and phone number – no paperwork. . 75% of the people that come to them for help are undocumented.
 - b. Small organization here in Sunset Park since 2008. Offer social and health services, review eligibility for public benefits, and support people in finding legal representation They explain health benefits, referrals, etc.
 - c. Have free health screenings and counseling (physical, vision screening, mental health counseling, other health screenings) 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 11am – 5pm.
 - d. Also have education services like ESL class. ESL classes have a focus on health and civic engagement.
 - e. Free flu shots this coming Saturday!
 - f. December 15th – Extravaganza – lots of events that day.
 - g. Amphsonline.org
8. Kelly – liaison for Assemblyman Felix Ortiz – will come and give us updates.
 - a. Bill signed into law – personal check-off box for donations to student health centers
 - b. She will leave her e-mail address in case we have any concerns we can reach out to her.
9. Jackie from Zero Waste
 - a. Kids in school are learning to reduce, reuse, recycle. It's the law at home AND school to recycle.

- b. Students know that compost put in the brown bin help give nutrients back to the soil to grow plants and trees.
 - c. Encourage kids at home to recycle and join the green team to help the community!
 - d. Bring home information about how to recycle!
 - e. Soft plastics CANNOT be recycled (plastic bags, wrappers, Capri Suns, etc.)
 - f. Remember to wash out containers before recycling!
10. Raffle!!