

Center School PTA Meeting Monday, October 24, 2022

Introduction

Having established that a quorum was achieved, Co-President Maria Garutti called the meeting to order at 6.34p.

• Welcome by Ms Garutti & Lisa Spinnell

Recap of the Mix & Mingle that was such a huge success last week.

Another in-person PTA event coming in November -- a morning coffee – precise date to be decided.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from last month's meeting; the motion was seconded, and then the Minutes were approved.

• Principal's Report

We've had only 5-day week, but we've spent a lot of time getting to know your children, and teaching them about the Majors and Minors and Minis. This past Friday, the whole school went to Jazz at Lincoln Center.

We've had Advisory Day and Field Day.

Family Conferences - flyer was sent home - progress reports are different than anything a new 5th-grade family might have experienced in elementary school.

Not an academic statement; students look back and figure out what they've been doing. Teachers write a response to the students' assessments.

In *December*, teachers will provide an *academic* assessment report, and the students will write a response to *those*.

Charitable Giving:

Friday will be the schoolwide Halloween party: Students are to come to school in regular clothes, and change into their costumes before the party in the afternoon. The price of admission is at least one can of food to be donated.

Also coming up is the Thanksgiving turkey fundraiser for West Side Community Against Hunger. Each homeroom will be competing to raise the most funds to purchase the most turkeys.

Separately, the principal shared that the weeklong bake sale raised a little more than \$1,000 for World Central Kitchen.

• Treasury Report

Mr. Eldridge reiterated the yearly budget of \$209,000.

Have spent \$77,000 so far - primarily funding the computer teacher.

\$2,200 to spend on Mix'n'Mingle.

Have raised about \$8,300, mostly via the Pledge Drive – about 15% toward the goal.

Easy link to donate to the pledge drive:

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=6GBE8MW7TR282&source=url

The Advisory race is on! The Advisory with the highest percentage of participation will win a pizza party.

• Parent Committee Updates

Special Events: co-chair Rita Mullaney & Andy Meyer

The months have been selected:

April - writers' night

May - chamber music

May - singer/songwriters' night

Committee on Racial Justice and Equity - co-chairs Tari Coy (6th grade parent) & Ali Auth (8th grade parent)

Shared the Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) mission for the committee and the school year.

Laid out goals for admissions – trying to pull from all the schools in D3, to make the incoming class (current 4th graders) more racially and socioeconomically reflective of the entire district.

Thinking about equity in terms of 8th graders advancing to HS

Emphasized the inclusive curriculum at Center School and the goal of communicating that to the Center School community,

Email: Co-chair Tari Coy Latarrria@gmail.com

Auction - Co-Chairs Kathryn Poots & Sara Bonin

Hoping to have it in-person in March - the theme will be "Superheroes of Center School."

Auction is the largest fundraiser of the year, for which every family is asked to donate 2 items.

Auction donation link: <https://thecenterschool.ejoinme.org/Auction2023>.

• SLT Update

Center School parent Gary Rubinstein was introduced as the newly elected chair of the SLT – a second chair is TBD.

Mr. Rubinstein requested that parents reach out with any topics or concerns to be raised or discussed: garyrubinstein@yahoo.com

Parents are allowed to attend and observe SLT meetings.

* Adjournment

There being no further questions or old business, Ms Garutti adjourned the meeting at 7.01p.

* Upcoming Important Dates/Reminders:

November 2022

- Thu/Fri November 3 - 4: Family Conferences (no afterschool)
- Tue, November 8: Election Day - asynchronous remote day for students (they'll all have homework)
- Fri, November 11: Veterans Day - No School
- Mon, November 14: Next PTA meeting, 6:30pm
- Thu/Fri, November 24-25: Thanksgiving break - No School

Future PTA Meetings:

- December 15: PTA Meeting & TACS Show
- January 23: PTA Meeting
- February 13: PTA Meeting
- March 16: PTA Meeting & TACS Show
- April 24: PTA Meeting
- May 22: PTA Meeting
- June 12: PTA Meeting

Future SLT Meetings:

- TBD

Executive Board emails:

President: CenterSchoolPTA@gmail.com

Vice President: CenterSchoolPTAVicePresident@gmail.com

Treasurer: CenterSchoolPTATreasurer@gmail.com

Secretary: CenterSchoolPTASecretary@gmail.com