

PS 166Q January 2022 PTA meeting:

CALL TO ORDER: *Please note these notes are transcribed from Zoom*

The general monthly meeting for the PTA of PS 166Q was held on Monday, January 3, 2022 via Zoom. It was called to order at 6:36 PM, presided over by Jennifer Tuttle -

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Highlights of the minutes for December 2021 were read to membership. The minutes are approved without opposition.

Hi everyone. Happy New Year, I'm sure, so usually you're trying to be as brief as possible at these things but I feel li

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Ms.Geller welcomes everyone back. Happy 2022!
- We have a vacancy on our SLT (School Leadership Team). Need to vote on our next meeting 2/7/22
- PS166Q was highlighted by Mayor DeBlasio for the vaccine referral program. The referral program will bring in \$13,600 to the PTA. Thank you all who participated.
- The responsibilities for SLT include coming to the meetings, once a month or twice a month we meet once for two hours and then another time for one hour, and we talk about everything from all the new coding protocols to the budget to school events and and curricular goals and things like that so if you're interested, or if you know somebody who's interested, you should be prepared to have yourself or that person, attend the 2/7/22 PTA meeting.
- There's a lot of new protocols put in place that may be confusing. If your child is positive for Covid, you need to keep them home. Your child's having Covidlike symptoms you need to keep them home.
- We are going to be giving out in school take home kits that will be given out if a child has been exposed at school.
- If you have been exposed outside of school, but if there is a positive individual that your child is near either the teacher or a classmate, they will get a positive, they will get a take home kit that has two tests inside the tests are meant to be given on day one so that night when they get home, and on day five, and as long as the children come back negative. They are allowed to come to school. If a child tests positive, keep your child home.
- No remote learning option now. The teachers are having a difficult time finding time in their day to get out additional work to kids that are just choosing to stay home they're not obligated to do that. A lot of our teachers do go above and beyond, but there's only so many hours in the day and it's a lot. The other thing is sending homework in isolation, without having heard the lesson from the day is not really that productive for your kids
- That's important to remember is that we have a substantial number of staff members that are absent. I'm happy to report that today we did not have to combine any classes or use any large spaces every class was covered, but as a result of that a couple. If your child's teachers one who is absolutely potentially sick or quite sick themselves, they're not able to provide work for the kids that are in person or even those that that chose to keep them home so please be
- The other thing that's going to happen is that the city has told us that there are a lot of substitute teachers available. We are putting in requests for the substitutes and plain and simple the positions are not filled and at times we are using school staff to cover.
- We're not using the lunchroom for lunchtime so masks are on. That's also really telling us that masks are working.
- Anticipate we're going to try to go outside for recess as often as we can but when you're short staffed going outside becomes also a danger, We stayed in because we anticipated snow and it was very cold,
- Please give your consent for Covid testing. No testing for Prek or K per DOE

- Please send us an email copy of your child's vaccine card, we are keeping it confidential. I promise you it's going nowhere other than in a file in my office just to keep things updated.
- We are going to try to get the enrichment programming started as soon as possible. The school had asked the PTA to hold off on that back in the fall and things are really bad.
- We have days off. Coming up on January, 18 is Martin Luther King Jr. Day so there's no school and. February, 1 is Lunar New Year so there is no school and that data is at the beginning of next month.
- all people that enter the building, parents included, have to show approval of vaccination, unless there is an emergency or crisis, they are not allowed into the building so that includes all of the enrichment personnel as well they will all have to be subject to the house screener and fully vaccinated.
- Open house will be held virtually

TREASURY REPORT

- Close out - \$105,000, up 1% from last month due to lack of programming classes and additional generous donations..
- Once again, due to a lack of programming expenses for the month of January, as well as very generous end of your donations on behalf of some incredibly kind families at ps1 66, as well as a few hundred dollar donations from our partnership that we have with the Local Code Ninjas in Astoria.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Reminder that PTA meetings 1st of the month. If anyone wants to discuss anything specific during the meeting please submit a request 2 weeks prior.
- Meeting dates for the remainder of school year - 3/7, 4/4, 5/2, 6/6
- Testing in the schools. Please give consent for testing. It is a way to keep our community safer as Miss Geller said the process at ps1 66 Q's really streamlines. It's a very delicate process, there's no insertion of a Q tip, high up into the nose, it's just a gentle swab around the lower part of the nostril.
- The auction team had their first meeting we had six folks show up that's a good seed start, but we're excited to expand that because, like we said the auction is the main driver of the enrichment programs, historically, so the money that has been derived. The auction has been the money that's paid for the majority of the enrichment programming so we are planning to have a nice big auction this year as big as it can possibly be because it's been a little smaller obviously in the last couple years due. The next meeting is Thursday January 13 at 8pm.
- Everything is on the schedule for fundraiser and Amanda Walker, who is our previous fundraising chair, had a lot of the pieces parts already in motion and is available to anybody who'd be interested in this position to help walk them through how the rest of the year
- would go so it'd be a great way to kind of ease into an executive board position in the PTA if that's something that interests you. So, again email PTA if that's something you might like to do or if you know somebody
- And our committee reports. Just a few things with fundraising Friday January 21 will be the picture retake day.
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- Need volunteers for the Auction team as it's our biggest fundraiser. Prep for the auctions starts months in advance.
- We are in need of a NEW fundraising chair or Co-Chair

***Questions - Ms. Geller answered - are kids who are fully vaccinated tested? DOE makes that decision. As of right now 10% of staff are tested. Dr.Composto is looking at algorithm for testing list. This should be random.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FUNDRAISING

- Picture Retake day 1/21
- Code Ninja will donate percentage to PTA who sign up
- Again, in need of NEW fundraising chair or co-chair are current chair steps down
- [Amazon Smile](#) - look for PTAofPS166Q
- ESS - has been fully funded for school year 2021-2022. THANK YOU EVERYONE! Prices may increase next school year 2022-2023

Communication

- New website coming
- Need graphic designer, IT or marketing folks, and translators. Please email PTA if interested

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at