

PS 166Q, January 8, 2024 PTA meeting:

The general monthly meeting for the PTA of PS 166Q was held on Monday, January 8, 2024 via Zoom. Present: Exec board members Athena Gonzalez, Barbara Coogan, Claudia Henriquez, Tara Woebbe-Alcaraz and PTA committee chairs for Fundraising, Social, Enrichment, ESS, Auction, and Communications were present.

Call to Order by* Tara Woebbe-Alcaraz *at 6:33pm

Reminded everyone that December Students of the Month would be celebrated at the February in person PTA meeting with the January Students of the Month as well.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Highlights of the minutes were posted on the PTA website for the parental community to review. Minutes for the December 2023 PTA meeting were approved without opposition.

PTA PRESIDENT REPORT:

- Welcomes all families to the meeting
- Reminds general membership of remaining PTA meeting dates for the year. Dates are on PTA website <https://www.ptaofps166.org/>
- Reminder that all PTA members are volunteers
- Highlight PTA website as a great resource for information
- Introduced Tutoring program being offered starting Jan 22, 2024 to all PS166Q students. It was budgeted for at the last PTA meeting unanimously. It will be a schoolwide offering from 4–8 pm. Parents schedule their child's tutoring time slots in collaboration with teachers. It's unlimited Monday-Friday during those times and FREE to all thanks to leftover money from COVID years. Thank you to Barb and Athena for spearheading this effort with Ms. Geller and the administration.
- Tara added that this additional support outside of the classroom is great! And the company is also a B Corp which means it is a business that has met certain high standards. The B Corp standards involve a corporation's verified social and environmental performance, its impact on its workers and customers, its public transparency.

Treasurer Report - reported by Claudia and Brian

- Approval of budget amendment to pay for soccer nets and Bulldogs mascot costume (\$1500)
 - Brian, Co-Treasurer asked if this was a time-sensitive vote.
 - Tara replied that it wasn't but felt straightforward enough to include in this month's meeting. That it would be nice to get started on ordering these things now for March sports events
 - 21 YESs, 0 NOs.
- Brian read Profit and Loss Report (see Slides): Academic year, \$33K generated, Expenses were \$62K
- Brian read Balance Sheet (see Slides): total equity is \$100K because of high positive balance from previous years during COVID when spending was fairly nonexistent due to no in-person events
 - This does NOT reflecting tutoring payment (payment is going out soon)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fundraising – reported by Athena and Tara, PTA Presidents

- Chuck E. Cheese fundraiser, 3:00 on Jan 19 at Long Island City location at 48th Street and Northern Blvd.; 20% of sales comes back to us as funds raised. Coupons and more details coming soon in backpacks. Mouse will be outside school that day at dismissal just before event.
- Donors Choose 8 PS166Q projects currently: supplies requested here are delivered right to the school and it supports our amazing teachers

ESS – reported by Tomiko

- Done collecting for this year.
- We've collected \$21,330 and purchased \$17,100 worth of supplies at the beginning of the year. (\$4042.79 just purchased in our midyear restock)
- What are we up to now?
 - Taking inventory of what we have in the supply room and what else is needed to finish out the year
 - Creating a new supply list for next year and making any adjustments based on feedback and supply chain info
 - Organizing the supply room so we are ready to receive new supplies for next year.

Enrichment – reported by Joseph V

- Excited because it'll be a full season this Spring of enrichment classes, making better leaders for tomorrow. Kids have this unique participation, learn extraordinary skills while teachers are able to grade things, etc.
- Shared Spring Partners:
 - Kindergarten: Dance with Anastasia
 - 2nd Grade: Kidspire Architecture
 - 3rd Grade: Chess with Tom Moran
 - 4th & 5th Grades: Haitian Dance led by Peniel Guerrier
- Introduced the Build a City project with Karen from Kidspire and the chess instruction which he particularly likes because he loves chess; hopes to share videos from the classrooms from these classes
- Mentioned the addition of Yoga with Jeanette
- Introduced Anastasia Soroczynski and gave background on her time at RIOULT before branching out independently; gave all of her credentials (see Slide); she will have 6 kindergarten classes
- Introduced Karen Domingo-Moran from Kidspire and read all of her credentials and plans for architecture classes with our kids. Shared testimonials about what teachers and students are saying about these classes. Said this year will be "much more advanced."
- Introduced Tom Moran who teaches chess and shared all of his credentials
- Introduced Peniel Guerrier who teaches Haitian dance and shared all of his credentials and what teachers and students are saying about these classes. This vendor was delayed for certain reasons because of the growth of the school.
- Discussed NYCCT and how they incorporate literature but will go deeper into that in the Feb-May meeting presentations
- Said we're always looking for additional ideas.
 - Yoga may occur as these things get introduced

- Ms. Geller interrupted to clarify that yoga has NOT been approved.

SOCIAL presented by Danielle Bazalais

- Shared Winter Social success and photos (see Slides)
- Upcoming FREE movie night will be February 8 so keep an eye out for more details on social media

AUCTION presented by Susan Phuvasitkul

- Have four sponsors: Grid Squared Systems (\$5K), Chelsea Pediatric Dentistry (\$1K), Dr. Shany Park (\$500), and Christine Chen & Richard Chang (\$500) who are PS166Q parents
- Still looking for sponsorships.
- Online bidding **and** in-person event: May 2024
- This is our biggest fundraiser of the year! We have Big Dreams of raising up to \$40K in 2024! All of the funds raised will go toward student enrichment programs like chess, theater, architecture, and Equitable School Supplies for all students.
- We need passionate volunteers who can help solicit sponsorships and donations, manage Auctria software, plan the event, and help market the event. We appreciate any amount of time you can commit, even if it's just asking your company for a donation. Talk to us, or email auction@ptaofps166.org
- Website: <https://auctria.events/PS166QAuction2024>
- Alongside the online auction, we feel an in-person event will help us reach our greatest potential in raising funds.
- Build excitement around big-ticket auction items
- Display additional auction items not available online
- Create a festive atmosphere with food/drink to inspire community AND more bidding
- Call for a vote: week online (silent) and conclude at Sala.
 - 24 YESs

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Career Day videos are due soon. In Monday's email (link and more info)
- Bulldogs did great but did not win today; excited about the new mascot costume as others schools have them.
- SLT
 - Three (3) of our PS166Q students are going onto the District wide Spelling Bee
 - Digital online testing is going very well.
- Q&A
 - **Q:** opting out of state tests
 - **A:** State tests are mandated, parents have right to refuse but has to be done so in writing, ahead of the start of the test
 - Tests are not as intense as before, less demand
 - Recent teacher exams are on computer also
 - iReady is diagnostic, practice

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 pm