

PS9 PTO 2015-2016  
Minutes of the October 20, 2015 Meeting

**Opening and Welcome**

- Introduction of those present
- Review of minutes from last meeting

**SLT Report**

- A representative of the SLT reported on
- An overview of the budget from the DOE (amount received, gap, way the money is distributed)
- CEP drafted by Mrs. D'Avilar; final draft due on October 31 will be edited by SLT members.
- Issues discussed among SLT: trips; PS9 has reached Phase 2 of a visionary award from Whole Child Network
- Committees on SLT to include a diversity committee

**Harmony Program**

- Mrs. D'Avilar presented
- Harmony Program-under the umbrella of Whole Child Network (sponsored by LIU and National University)
- Pilot teacher and classroom- Ms. Hernandez (Teacher of the Year)
- Program builds around the premise of teaching children how to get along through effective communication, peer support and building socio-economic skills
- In Pre-K; to extend up through 5<sup>th</sup> grade by December

**Fundraising**

*Direct Appeal:*

- Alicia reported on it's role in the PTO budget, our goal of \$150,000 for this year, making the budget more transparent, and communicating through email about how money is used
- Considering appealing to the "school zone" – the larger community (reaching out to block associations, local newspaper, etc.)
- Decided to table Election Day bake sale
- Looking for matching donations for direct appeal

*Schoola:*

- Website that sells donated clothes
- School earns \$2 out of \$5
- So far, \$35,000 has been raised through this program.
- Suggested use of funds: to pay for trips already in the budget, trips for each grade and to support grades whose trips aren't on the budget, to give each grade a special trip.
- Looking to create a plan for the next 2 years.

## **Budget Review and Approval**

- Same budget as presented in September.
- Printers and ink: spent \$3,000 on new ink for more efficient laser printers; \$3,700 spent between ink and printers; color printers remain in classrooms; can get ink from Donor's Choose
- Can use Amazon Smile, but Amazon referral program is more valuable for school

## *PS9 Merchandise*

- Melissa sought feedback to expanding selling opportunities of merchandise (at events, for example).
- Suggested expanding product line (drawstring bags, and school supplies like pencils, for example); proposed \$2,500 to spend
- Need to replenish current supply

## *Science Department*

- Ms. Codrington explained a plan to have a STEAM night to replace Family Math Night; need make it and take it science activity items; asked for \$200
- Need a Delta Kit for a 4<sup>th</sup> grade Dual Language class- \$600
- Robotics needs a EB3 that's licenced; \$474 including the license for 1 site permit

## **MSONE**

- Many parents are involved in conversation about this new middle school
- Would like to offer the support of PS9
- Jesse read a proposed statement
- Forums to gather input from families are scheduled as follows:  
November 9 (PS 3), 12 (PS 133), 16 (MS 313), 30 (PS 11) all at 6:30PM; call Precious Jones @ 718-636-3284 for information

## **Events**

### *Silent Auction*

- request for \$500 approved
- Need donation items, volunteers to solicit donors

### *Pumpkin Patch*

- Volunteers are needed; suggestion to sell merchandise at this event

### *Aaron Copland*

- November 12- Event to honor legacy of one of PS 9's most famous students; for parents only; TBA

### *Picture Day*

- November 12 and 13

## **Committees**

- Diversity Committee has begun to meet
- Looking for volunteers to run Barnes and Noble Fair