

MINUTES

MS447 PTA Minutes

September 23, 2014 - Time 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Sisi Kephida, President at 5:40 p.m.

In Attendance – Executive Committee, IA Principal, AP and Sign- in sheets

Approval of Minutes - The minutes of the last meeting were not available for distribution and approval.

Opening Remarks and Introduction

- Introduction of the PTA Executive Committee and announcement of open seats for Co-President, Co-Vice President and Co-Secretary
- Introduction of Arin Rusch, IA Principal

New School Year Update from Principal Rusch

- IA Principal Rusch opened up with an invitation to all parents to attend the PTA meetings – makes the schools stronger
- Introduction of New Parent Coordinator – Amy Sirot (8th grade Parent)
- The new cafeteria arrangement was addressed and parents were advised that tables are on order and the arrangement to share the cafeteria with the HS as a result of their increased population is working out amicably and the district support network is actively involved in the process/activity.
- After-School program is being supported by a grant from the Mayor's office being administered by the Big Brothers Big Sisters of New York City with a limit of 104 students and as of Sept 23, there were approx 94 or 97 enrolled students for a full 5 day a week program.
- After-School offerings that are not a part of the program include Student Government, Peer Mediation, Starting in Oct-Nov, Arts teachers will offer 6 weeks of audition prep for 8th graders applying for specialized high schools
- No additional paid programs
- We no longer have office hours after school and as soon as the schedules are finalized there will be lunch clubs added based on the teachers availability. We expect to have on 2-3 lunch periods available over a 6 day cycle
- Lunch Menus are now available on the website.

Q& A Session with Ms. Rusch and Parents

- Parents voiced their concerns regarding the lunch room arrangements with high school
- Other issues regarding the attendance requirement for after school program were addressed
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Goals for the Year

- We are planning to have our new library dedicated to Ms. Frederick up and running and would need to have Library Volunteers
- Biggest Fundraiser - Annual Auction – We need 6th and 7th Grade Parents
- We need to have new Web Administrator for the school's website and a request was made for any willing person to step forward

Request for Grade Organizers and Executives

- We need Class Parent Volunteers and encourage parents to sign up and join the PTA mailing list using the PTA447@gmail.com on the school website.

Request for CPA/Accountant

- There is a need for a CPA/Accountant to assist the PTA with tax preparation and other not-for-profit issues. This service will be paid for by the PTA.

Participatory Budgeting addressed by Douglas Hanau

- Need to form a Committee to prepare the proposal
- In spite of the restrictions on residency requirements for District we are in talks with Levine's office
- Our Proposal will be for fixing the bathrooms in the school

Upcoming Events

- October 15, 2014 - Fall Parent Mixer at ICI Restaurant
- Harvest Pot Luck, TBD
- November 15, 2014, Barnes & Noble Book Fair and Talent Showcase (7th Ave and 6th Street)

New Business - There was no new business arising out of the meeting and the meeting ended at 6:30 p.m. to accommodate the High School Workshop hosted by Star Covinelli

Upcoming PTA Meetings

- Tuesday, October 21, 2014 @ 8:10 a.m.
- Tuesday, November 18, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, December 23, 2014 @ 8:10 a.m.
- Tuesday, January 27, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 24, 2014 @ 8:10 a.m.
- Tuesday, March 24, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 21, 2014 @ 8:10 a.m.
- Tuesday, May 19, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 23, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m.