

PS 165
PTA General Meeting
Minutes February 25, 2021
Conference Call 5:00pm

Call to Order: Tara called to order at 5:42pm.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Zarina motioned to approve January minutes, Rodney seconded. January 2021 General Meeting PTA minutes are approved.

Principal's Report (from 165 Town Hall)

- Safety at Entry and Dismissal
 - Important for everyone to remain safe and all students and adults need to be wearing masks when coming into the school.
 - Maintain social distancing and do not gather at the entrance.
 - Read the health screener carefully each time as the questions change. Note if your child was around others with Covid symptoms, not only if they have been diagnosed.
 - Take your child's temperature every morning.
 - Notify the school if your child does not pass the health screener.

- Covid-19 Contact 165 if...
 - Your child has any C-19 symptoms, tests positive, has been exposed to C-19, your family is quarantining, or your child does not pass the health screening.
 - 165 will need a copy of the positive test result.

- Hot Lunches
 - We will have hot lunches for in-person students starting March 8.
 - Lunches will be individually packaged and brought up to the students.

- Gifted & Talented Admissions
 - The test was not approved for this year; instead families and teachers will identify students for G&T learning.
 - Starting Monday March 8, families will have the opportunity to submit applications for students entering Kindergarten in Fall 2021. Deadline is April 9.
 - Eligible families will be notified in May.

- Art After School with Ms. Lisa

- Offering sessions next week and then again later in the year.
 - Sessions will be in the evening.
 - Paper mache pinatas is one of the planned activities.
 - Ms. Lisa is the only Specials teacher that will be offering an after school program.
- Virtual Parent Teacher Conferences
 - Thursday March 4 – Half Day for Students
 - Make sure you are set up with NYC My Student Account so you can see your child’s grades, report cards, test scores and more. Contact Ms. Brenes if you have trouble accessing your child’s account.
 - Grading Policy: 3 is on grade level, 4 is above level. N is given where a 1 or 2 would have usually been given. N means Near Grade Level, but parents are encouraged to focus on the teacher’s comments to know whether the student is very close to grade level or needs more help to come up.
- Kindergarten In-Person Survey
 - Survey for current in-person K students gauging interest in 5 days of in-person.
 - 165 cannot guarantee in-person learning at this time.
- NY State Assessments
 - Tentative Dates: ELA – April 20-22; Math – May 4-6
 - Test Prep Virtual After School
 - 165 asks that all parents accept this invitation when they receive it so their children can get extra help.
 - 3rd-5th Grade Upcoming Literacy Units
 - Reading: Text Analysis
 - Writing: Writing About Reading
 - Very important for students to attend their small group lessons.
 - Read, Read, Read!!!
 - Daily reading is extremely important for academic growth.
 - Please make sure your child reads each evening. Novels, non-fiction, graphic novels, etc, all are good.
 - Build their passion for reading.
- Q&A
 - Q: The 5 days in-person would just be for K?
 - A: Yes, we can’t accommodate the higher grades because of the number of students in the class.
 - Q: Any information on how schooling will go in the fall, will there be in-person for all grades?

- A: There are no updates on the '21-'22 school year yet.

Treasury Report

- Please see attached spreadsheet.
- Total Income in Jan: \$275.00
- Total Expense in Jan: \$6,051.70
 - Plexiglass Shields and Family Gift Cards
- Balance on Hand 1/31/20 - \$64,593.20

President's Report

- Newsletter: If you would like to stay connected and up-to-date and don't already receive the PTA Newsletter, please sign-up here: <https://bit.ly/ps165pta> (Please double check your spam folder!)
- In January, the PTA:
 - Purchased Plexiglass Barriers for the classrooms.
 - Organized the New York Hall of Science webinars (NYSCI)
 - Held a Movie Night/Morning
- Family resources highlight:
 - Free K-12 Virtual Field Trips via Intrepid Museum
 - Child Mind Institute's Free Workshop Series for Families
 - Improving Your Relationship with Your Child
 - Parent Calming Techniques
- District DOE News
 - 2021 Community and Citywide Education Council Application Deadline is 2/28
 - To apply for an elected seat, go to NYC My Student account
 - K G&T admissions – Express interest 3/8
 - P-EBT Food Benefit – the \$420 food benefit for spring 2020 has been distributed to all NYC public school students.
 - If you have not received it, contact the State.
 - Take-Out Meals for Remote Learning
 - Remote learning students and parents may pick up free breakfast and lunch at 165 and other locations. Pick up on school days from 9 to 12.

School Leadership Team (SLT) Report

- Meets on the 2nd Monday of the month from 2:30pm to 4:00pm.
 - Parents should contact teacher chair Sara Stone for a zoom link to silently observe the meeting.
- SLT Minutes will be made available for publication on school website after they are approved at the following month's SLT meeting.
- Please check your child's Google classroom regularly to see their assignments. All teachers have office hours from 1:30-1:50.
- Implementation of myOn virtual library for students to access at home.
- Attendance is currently not a CEP goal.
- Next meeting is March 8.

Building Safety Council

- Last meeting was Feb 9.
- New School Nurse, Jessica Franklin, started on Feb 22.
- Middle Schools to Reopen for In-Person Learning on Feb 25.
 - Mott Hall II started blended learning for grades 6-8.
- Construction continues six days a week after school hours. Timeline is for completion by June 2022.
- Teachers Union - no current concerns to report.

Next PTA General Meeting is Thursday, March 25, after the Town Hall.

Adjournment – 6:06pm.