



General PTA Meeting

Minutes: December 21st, 8:30 AM

Facilitated by Co-Presidents // Minutes taken by Co-Secretaries

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD IN ENGLISH WITH LIVE SPANISH TRANSLATION

1. **8:45 am Call to Order – Co-President Lauren Balaban (5 min)**
 - a. Welcome
 - b. 30 people in attendance
 - c. Approved meeting minutes from November 16 Meeting
2. **PTA Recap of activities - Co-Presidents (5 min)**
 - a. Events
 - i. **Holiday Decorating Party** had a great turnout. Thank you to our PTA Co Presidents and parents who helped facilitate, everyone had a blast making decorations, snacking on holiday treats, and bopping to holiday tunes. **Shout out to our parent decorating squad Margarita, Krissy, Lamonique, Natalia, Sarah, and Tanima**
 - ii. **Holiday Bazaar** Such a fantastic event. Families had a wonderful time crafting at all of the booths, snacking on treats, and spending time together as a community. **MANY thanks to Louis and our community and parent coordinator team for putting it together alongside the school faculty and our PTA Leadership Team. Big shout out to our parent volunteers and everyone who donated to make the event such a big success.**
 - b. SLT Parent Update:
 - i. Welcome to our new SLT members, Susan Fulwiler & Olga Gashinsky
3. **Upcoming Events and Volunteer Opportunities, Co-Presidents (10 min)**
 - i. 1/26 Spirit Day - Fashion Disaster
 - ii. International Food Festival
 1. **Saturday, January 20th from 5 to 8pm**
 2. Sign up to volunteer for the event or bring a dish
 3. We will also be looking for help canvassing the neighborhood for local restaurants donations
 - iii. Ps145 Family Movie Night!
 1. **Tentative date, Wednesday, January 10th**
 2. Free admission, \$5 suggested donation at the door per patron
 3. Full concession stand for sale! Will be looking for baked goods and snacks/drinks donations
 - iv. Graduation Pictures & Retakes
 1. **February 6th**
 2. Parent volunteers needed
 - v. Other events on the horizon
 1. Scholastic Book Fair
 - a. will need parent volunteers to take the lead
 2. Annual ps45 Online Auction



PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION OF P.S. 145

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- a. We want to start early on soliciting donations, looking for big ticket items this year, like theatre tickets, sports, concerts, experiences, etc.

4. State of the School + Q&A in English & Spanish, *School Leadership Team (30 min)*

- a. Hired another community coordinator—belief that in order to support a child, you have to support their family. We need to help the parents—services, jobs
- b. **Mr. DeCastro—STH-Spanish**—Will work with Louis and Juan Abreu as a community coordinator
 - i. Lots of experience with community organizations and after school programs, to bring a quality after school program to PS145; Was a resource coordinator for a city agency, for support
 - ii. Will connect the school with new programs
 - iii. Tasked with increasing our enrollment at PS145, along with Ms. Tudi
 1. In January, will tour day care centers to get interest in PS145
- c. **Louis- STH-English**
 - i. Parents are the backbone of the school, the bazaar, raising the money, etc.
 - ii. After school knitting and textiles program starting Jan. 2024, by invitation, based on interest and aptitude and commitment; 4 days a week, 2:45-4:45, for grades 2-5 to, through June; Right now starting with 15 students; will have workshops (how to dye yarn etc.); If students opt for this program that are in the YMCA after school, that will also free up spots in the YMCA afterschool program
- d. The new hires are very good at what they do and are strategically placed to help the school community
- e. Dentist came in December and again in January 2024
- f. PBIS assembly Dec. 21st
- g. School tours on Thursdays
- h. Middle school admissions—All kids' applications are in! Thanks to our amazing guidance counselor, Ms. Mayela Gaytan
- i. Black History show on Feb. 28th—coordinated by Ms. Chang, the dance teacher
- j. ELL Academy is going well
- k. Proposal from Spanish-speaking parent to improve translation for PTA meetings

5. School Space Update

- a. Background - issue really came to a head last school year, 2022-2023; Dr. Garcia requested a walkthrough, was told no. A petition was put forward and a walkthrough was finally held back in March of 2023. Superintendent understands that there is a space concern, and said that in 18 months, there will be a resolution to the space issue;
- b. Ascension Catholic school space has been acquired by DOE with several plans to help alleviate space; one of the potential proposals is to split site ps145 between the two buildings.
 - i. PTA Leadership Response: Draft and send a letter to city council and the DOE to express our concerns and request a resolution to this issue

6. Other events on the horizon

- a. **Scholastic Book Fair**
 - i. Will need parent volunteers to take the lead
- b. **Annual ps45 Online Auction**
 - i. We want to start early on soliciting donations, looking for big ticket items this year, like theatre tickets, sports, concerts, experiences, etc.

7. Healing Ambassador Update - *Saul Robbins*



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- a. Wellness Program Events calendar updates—about 20 people came to the last wellness event
 - i. Potential Mental Health & Wellness Resource Fair this spring
 - ii. March, district wide), open to all of district 3
- 8. Treasurer Report & Fundraising - Co-Treasurers**
- a. Vlad - Quick glimpse at treasurer's report
 - i. Great donation season from the Holiday Bazaar
 - ii. Total amount of about \$77,000