

## PS 175 Parents Association Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2016 at 7:00pm

**Officers Present: Shinya Matsuta (Vice President), Beatrice Grosu (Vice President), Lana Eliyahu (Treasurer), Hillary Kahn (Corresponding Secretary), Daniella Lednicer (Recording Secretary)**

- **Last Meeting's Minutes Accepted**
- **Fundraising**
  - Movie Night: "Hotel Transylvania"; New date TBD. Need to solicit volunteers for ticket sales
  - Doritos will no longer be sold from Deals On Wheels
- **Test Prep — Parent Engagement Workshops: Flyers will go out next week**
  - To be conducted by Mr. Nussbaum and Ms. Dueño
  - Open to grades 3,4 and 5, possibly extending to 2nd grade as well
  - To be held 2 hours after school per week; Wednesday 2nd and 3rd Grade; Friday 4th and 5th Grade
  - Explaining difference between "Opting Out" and refusing to take the test (Not taking the test will NOT hinder students advancing to next grade level)
  - "Test prep, not stress prep" — emphasizing preparation without causing undue anxiety in the students
- **Treasurer's Report - Review**
  - Suggested following Halsey Middle School's lead and asking donations of \$175 per family (after P.S. 175), as well as to clearly communicate what this money provides in terms of programs, services, etc.
  - Pen & Ink — need more volunteers to distribute flyers in school
  - Amazon link on PA website still successful; need to make more parents aware
  - Additional sites suggested: Donorschoose.org, Schoola, Thread Up\Chuck E. Cheese Fundraising party - 20% of all profits go back to school
  - Principal Cooper can secure a grant from Verizon if there's a parent at the school who is an associate
- **SLT Recap**
  - Marquis Studio (First Grade) dates changes from 1/16-3/16 to 4/16-6/16
  - Inside Broadway (2nd Grade) began 1/12/16; professional Broadway actor came to work with the students
  - 2/11/16 - Parent workshop: "Sophisticated Ladies" at 6pm; actual performance at 7pm/\$10 admission
  - Robotics (Third Grade) Every Friday Starting 1/9
  - Debate Team and Band (via Education Through Music) also being considered
  - Talented and Gifted - Teacher on extended leave; other programs being considered in its place
  - Can Drive successful; raise over 1500 donated cans to NYC Food Banks
  - Library renovation - parent volunteers and NY Cares to re-stack the library books; new molding being put in place to secure shelves
  - Forest Hills Gymnastics looking to rent school gym after school hours, need to arrange/discuss logistics with Thinking Caps After School Program if approved
- **Communication**
  - Suggested distributing a flyer with icons of contact options; parents who indicate their preference would receive a "\$1.00 off" coupon to next PA event
  - Possible PA Meeting topic: "Internet Safety/Social Media Engagement" discussion led by PS175 parent and tech expert Roy Arroyo
  - Principal Cooper noted that staff/faculty cannot communicate with parents or students on social media
- **Thinking Cap After School Program**
  - One student was removed from the Enrichment Class, teacher abrasive and unresponsive to parent's concerns
  - Thinking Caps staff not returning calls/communication is an issue

**7:55 P.M. MEETING ADJOURNED**