

Spring Glen **PTA**[®]

PTA Meeting Minutes Thursday January 9, 2014

Subject to corrections, additions or deletions

CALL TO ORDER: Avi Kamrat called the meeting to order at 6:30pm in the Spring Glen library. PTA Officers presented included: Chris Wuerth (Co-President), Avi Kamrat (Co-President), Charlton Daye (Treasurer), Chaundra Vasseur (Co-Secretary) and Lancia Blatchley (Co-Secretary). Sign-in sheet included participants. Also present were Principal Barbara Nana and Assistant Superintendent Chris Melillo.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of November minutes. Eve Sansome voted to approve the minutes and Kris Mandelbaum seconded the motion.

2. Form nominating committee for 2014-2015 officers. Steve Rosenberg spoke about new positions available. Three tiered track (President, President Elect and Past President) is newly in place. Spring Glen PTA website explains each office and bylaws. Vice President positions of Enrichment, Membership, Fundraising and Communications are open for next year as well as President Elect. Charleton Daye looking for someone to shadow him for Treasurer responsibilities.

Chaundra Vasseur voted to form a nominating committee and Chris Wuerth seconded motion. Eve Sansone, Chris Wuerth and Katie Connors agreed to be part of the committee. Unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

3. Teacher/classroom mini grant program. E-board decided to create a committee to review mini grants which E-board would “rubber stamp” once Principal has approved it. Previous grants included projectors, trainings, books and die cut machine. New teachers receive \$300 worth of books to start their library. Sarah Fitzpatrick, Evelyn Neuber and John Solomon agreed to be on the committee. Dorian Bauknecht, Shelby Irwin and Erica Johnson are the teachers and specialists on the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Roundtable discussion on **Recess at Spring Glen** with Principal Barbara Nana and Assistant Superintendent Chris Melillo. Principal Nana shared interest in school recess as well as importance

of direct communication. State guidelines are 15 degrees or above but nurse and administrator make the decision daily. She and Sarah Bolitzer shared the history of concern about what happened when the kids went out and walked around school on the sidewalk in December. Various parents shared their concerns and curiosity about policy as well as possible suggestions to make it feasible. Avi suggested a committee be formed on recess. Parents Chaundra Vasseur, Kris Mandelbaum, Sarah Bolitzer, Catherine Jones, and Denise LaFramboise agreed to be part of the committee.

Mr. Chris Melillo, Assistant Superintendent, pointed out how digital communication can be misconstrued and the need for direct communication.

Mrs. Irwin voiced appreciation for the PTA, how well low-income children are included in activities, the die cut machine and being sent to trainings. She expressed concern about communication between parents and teachers not being positive and respectful. Mrs. Irwin shared a letter of appreciation written to the custodians by Spring Glen staff. Avi motioned to write a letter of support to the custodians, it was seconded by Chaundra Vasseur and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

5. Principal Update

Yale Art Gallery school-wide trip has been scheduled. Evelyn Neuber is scheduling other enrichment activities including musical and dance performances.

Chris Melillo reported the new principal search will be occurring in the Spring, starting at the end of February, including teachers and parents. Superintendent search has begun and will continue until the end of this month. Mr. Melillo reported that there will be enough computers in the school for Spring testing including enough headphones. Children are getting weekly access to computers now as well. Spring Glen website has information and sample tests for SBAC. CMT Science is still happening for 5th grade.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made to adjourn meeting by Steve Rosenberg and seconded by Chris Wuerth. Unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 8:41 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lancia Blatchley