



## MINUTES

MS54 PTA Meeting

November 12, 2019 @ 7:00 pm, Auditorium

[BTW54PTA@ms54PTA.org](mailto:BTW54PTA@ms54PTA.org)

### CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS & MINUTES: (7:00 – 7:05)

- Welcome & introduce newly elected board members, Larry Lee (Co-Corresponding Secretary), Denise Broady (Co-Recording Secretary) & Claudia Bachteler (G6 Rep)
- Review and approve October minutes – approved by PTA attendees

### PRESIDENTS' REPORT: (7:05 - 7:10)

- SLT Update – Laura
  - Equity goal as part of MS54 and add a measurable goal of student engagement and each student participate in one activity outside of the classroom
- CEC3 Update – Eric/Mike
  - December meeting to focus to bring heterogenous and mixed group education
- Presidents Council Equity Committee Update – Chris
  - Topics of concern: Topics of concern: common definition of equity, funding mandates, policy implementation guidance, addressing resource inequities. City Council passed law requiring DOE disclose PTA fundraising. Is there a way to share resources? Suggest taking a leadership role with other schools. While Chancellors Regs allow, our by-laws restrict us from sharing funding with other schools, but not best practices and knowledge.
- Equity Team Update – Kyle
  - There were 120 people that responded to the survey (50% from 6<sup>th</sup> grade and 25% from 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades) and request for more cultural event that is not tied to fundraising. They will be going through the free form feedback and will further readout of the survey results on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November.
- 108<sup>th</sup> St Construction Update – Chris
  - Monthly construction meetings with the building across the street. They are starting to see the building go up with a couple of floors a month, complete by the end of June, with potential occupancy a year from now. They have been very proactive in communicating with school when the street has been closed for construction.
- Events – Chris
  - Broadway & Beyond
    - 12/2 at 6:30 pm – confirm with Anne how many people use the accompanist as part of the rehearsal process.
    - The PTA will cover the cost for folks that are not able to afford to pay for the accompanist. The music director/accompanist is the only cost of the event and it is expected to be no more than \$1,000.
    - PTA adopts Community Ticket language drafted for Spring Fundraiser to be used for Broadway & Beyond.
    - Pricing preview: Adults \$25, Students \$10, Front Row \$50
  - Spring Fundraiser
    - Uptown Jazz
      - March 21 at 7pm
      - Pricing preview: Early bird price thru January 12: \$100, From January 13 thru March 20: \$125, On March 21 - the day of the event: \$150, Sponsor a teacher: \$100, Donate another amount: \$\_\_\_\_
      - Sponsorship language: The MS54 Auction is both a fundraiser and community-building event open to all families in our school. We hope you will be able to donate an amount that is meaningful to you. If the ticket price is prohibitive for your family, please reserve your ticket via the Community Ticket

option by contacting PTA  
Co-President Chris  
Giordano at  
[cdgiordano@aol.com](mailto:cdgiordano@aol.com).

- Safety Update – Jerome
  - A chart will be put up on who will be in charge of who is responsible for closing the alarms.
- High School Admissions Update – Jerome
  - Still watching to see what the city will do with the required % of attendees on the specialized high school. Parents are working to preserve specialized education and Charles Baron bill. 50% of MS54 kids go to specialized high schools and District 3 does not have enough high schools to accommodate all the kids in the district. Larry Lee will be our new representative for all high school matters.

#### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: (7:10-7:15)**

- School Update
  - Working on November 15<sup>th</sup> – Booker T Day and still need a chaperone for every 3 kids that participate
  - 1<sup>st</sup> day of 2<sup>nd</sup> marking period and hoping to get report cards out early next week
  - Parents were here last week for Parent Conferences

#### **TREASURERS' REPORT: (7:15 – 7:20)**

- Budget Update – went through an extensive budget and process of the budget and no surprises and our Treasurer is not concerned that the budget is approximately -\$300K. The Treasurer is not concerned with the negative amount as we have not spent all our budget the last 8 years and the budget is very conservative.
  - After School Pricing
  - Musical Grant – accepted and approved by PTA attendees
  - Funding Request: \$6300 for Central Park Tae Kwan Do for 115 G6 students – going back to get a better price

#### **PANEL ON NON-SPECIALIZED HIGH SCHOOLS: (7:20 – 8:30)**

- Parent representatives from:  
Beacon, Bard, Columbia Secondary, Frank McCourt, Manhattan Center for Science and Math, Millennium, High School for Art and Design, Nest+M, and Manhattan Hunter Science High School.
- Moderated by: Joanne Giordano

**NEXT GENERAL PTA MEETING:** Tuesday, December 10 @ 8:00 am