



AGENDA
MS 54 PTA General Meeting
June 13, 2019 7:00 PM
BTW54PTA@ms54.org

CALL TO ORDER & MINUTES

- Review and approve May minutes - Approved

GUEST

Dan Cohen – President of Friends of Anibel Aviles playground lives at 110th and kid goes to 452

- Annibele Aviles Saturday July 13 from 12:00 – 3:00 free event would love to have some volunteers even kid volunteers
- Looking for young board members; there is no cost to be a board member
- Recently earned a grant to plant trees in Manhattan Valley. They will be planting two on the north side of the field and will be involved in bringing other trees in the neighborhood

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- School update
 - Lots going on so look at the calendar to make sure you don't miss anything!
 - Here's what's coming up for next year:
 - 4 day summer bridge program to give kids who are struggling academically a bit of a head start and so the teachers can assess where they are; of 300+ G6 there will be about 68 kids who will benefit; will include kicking off The Outsiders, helping them complete their summer assignments, etc
 - Also will host the district summer school program this year; we are sending about 12 kids to summer school
 - Based on the calendar this year with school starting on Thursday, there will be an abbreviated orientation with all kids going through their class rotation right off the bat so there is not so much talking at kids the first few days
 - Interviewing for three special education teachers – humanities, math & science; next year there will be two 12:1:1 classes as well as an additional CCT teacher; will also need a new G8 science teacher
 - Cell phone policy – Exploring a new policy of collecting cellphones during homeroom each morning and returned at the end of the day
 - From SLT they are working on an educational philosophy that embraces both the need for remediation and acceleration for our population of kids: At BTW MS, academic excellence is the foundation of our school culture, we believe that both remediation and acceleration are important.
 - Next year we are planning on separating kids by ability only in math, which is currently done already.
 - Justine Fonte came in to discuss social media and student's digital footprint. There were three different assemblies and each was geared to the age of the audience

ELECTION

- Presentation of PTA Executive Board Slate
- EB Nominations from the floor
- Presentation of SLT candidates
- Vote – PTA Executive Board Slate approved

PRESIDENTS REPORT

- Safety meeting (June 3) recap
- SHSAT update
 - The state legislature is convened through June 19th. NOW is the time to call your assembly member whether you are for or against the plan and let them know your feelings either way. Our intention is to share the different voices on this topic, but we cannot do so if we don't hear your opinions.
- Update on 108 construction
 - The extra air monitor installed in the BTW yard, will be removed due to completion of excavation and summer coming. Two onsite monitors will continue to be run. Monitor would be reactivated if anything indicated a need.

- Equity Team
 - Dr. Judy Scott-Clayton, Ms. Sai & Ms. Johnson are the steering committee leading this effort. They chaired an event last night where equity issues and personal identity were discussed. We're looking to bring more voices into the conversation going forward perhaps including student voices.
 - On the cultural side, Ms. Kricorian's G7 & G8 students have been working on a mural that captures the idea of Booker T Washington, Duke Ellington and the overall vibe of the neighborhood

TREASURERS REPORT

- Treasury update
 - Slightly behind last year in fundraising, but about where we budgeted
 - Total income \$598 ty v 535 ly
 - Auction – even
 - Fundraising – close
 - Misc Fund - \$18K ahead
 - Afterschool slightly behind
 - Budgeted expenses of \$683K, but trending toward \$467K
 - Differences accounted for partially by additional DOE funds that helped offset some expenses that the PTA typically covers
 - Next year's budget has \$20K less in fundraising and \$100K more in expenses resulting in an \$80K swing

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Fundraising
 - One World Observatory – purely \$ in whereas for other events we need to buy tickets first; deadline to buy is June 21; will send home via backpack

OTHER BUSINESS

- CEC Elections update: Eric Wright from MS54 to serve on CEC3