



MINUTES

MS54 PTA General Meeting

January 11, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m., Zoom Mtg

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMIlfuyqrD0tGt0-ATNul1cMXoK-B_i0LAqv

- **Welcome, Introduction**
 - Welcome
 - Approval of December 2021 PTA minutes: Approved.

- **Principal's Report**
 - Please have your child vaccinated and boosted.
 - Since the break to-date, 120 students have tested positive and approximately twelve staff members are out due to covid and symptoms.
 - All classes have been covered thus far despite the staff shortages.
 - Please speak to your child about wearing their mask properly.
 - Marking period ends at the end of January. Contact teachers directly with any concerns.
 - Second round of MAP assessment testing is starting and will continue until the February break. The test covers ELA and math. This is the second assessment out of three.
 - Students received a perception survey to learn about their classroom experiences. The survey should be completed outside of school.

- **Presidents' Report**
 - Bylaws will be updated to incorporate changes made to the Chancellor's Regulations.
 - WinterFest - thank you to teachers and parents for a great event.
 - Snowflake making event was fun.
 - Holiday pop-up store raised more than \$1000, which will be used to pay for spirit wear.
 - Wellness Walks - there will be a dog edition.
 - Menstruation Station is a discreet supply service for students to obtain menstruation equipment.

- **Safety Update**
 - Stay on top of emails.
 - Please avoid sending your child to school if they are showing symptoms of illness.
 - Please opt-in to consent for testing.
 - Please speak to your child about cleaning up after themselves at school to decrease litter.

- **Ryan Health Center Update**
 - Kaitlyn Hansen and Sabrina Brown from Ryan Health Center
 - Ryan Health Center provides medical services like a doctor's office with the convenience of being inside the school.
 - Provides basic first-aid to all students. Students can also receive covid vaccination by making an appointment.
 - Parents must register their child with the clinic to receive medication and further medical services, such as a physical exam.
 - Please reach out with any questions. We are friendly and love kids.
 - Please call the clinic to confirm whether your child is signed up.
 - Telephone Number: (212) 666-2261

- **SLT Update**
 - The SLT meeting will be held on Friday, January 14, 2022, 7:20am via zoom.
 - Any member of the MS54 community who wishes to observe the meeting may email sit-cochairs@ms54pta.org in advance for the zoom link.

- **CEC/PC Update**
 - Next meeting will be held on January 19, 2022, 6:30pm.



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- **Grants**

- John Decatur
- City grant applications are due next month.
- Will be applying for funds to update the music room, specifically sound improvement for chorus and string rooms.

- **Annual Appeal Update**

- Rachel Polimeni
- Reached 54% towards the goal by the end of 2021 - thank you for donating!
- Please check the newsletter for the donation link: <https://www.ms54.org/annual-appeal.html>

- **Treasurer's Report**

- Working on the mid-year financial report.

- **After School Update**

- There are slots available in many after school clubs.
- Two programs were canceled due to low registration: Mindful Coloring and Yoga and Miscellaneous Music.
- Working on a new way to register for after school programs.
- About 300 after school slots have been filled and more students are signing up. Students are incredibly engaged.
- Scholarships are available. Please reach out to Anne Pejovich.
- Implemented \$15 change fee to change registration from one program to another.
- <https://www.ms54.org/afterschool.html>

- **Community Updates (7:40 p.m.)**

- Teacher/Staff
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- Fundraising
 - Colleen Welker
 - Holiday candle sale was successful.
 - Dumpling Drive will be held in February. Purchases will be made via the school store. Orders close on January 23, 2022, and pick up will be on February 11, 2022, after school.
 - Need volunteers to hand out dumplings.
 - Fundraising meeting will be held on Friday, January, 14, 2022, 8:50am. Will be exploring spring events (not an auction), Lighthouse Ride, Dumpling Drive, etc. Register for fundraising meeting via <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEIcemhpz4jGNRYFIAMABcF6JyNiKVynHLM>
 - Dr. Elster is planning a pay-as-you-wish event, such as a sip-n-needlepoint zoom.
 - School store - please note there is a staff discount and scholarships.
- Communications Team
 - The PTA Communications Team is looking for someone to learn what goes into sending out MS54's weekly e-newsletter and take on the duties next school year. If you have experience with e-newsletters, like to write, and are good with scheduling and collecting info from people, please join the MS54 PTA Communications Team! We'll walk you through everything you will need to take over this important task. <https://www.ms54.org/newsletter-archive.html>
 - webmaster@ms54pta.org
 - Check website for HS open houses and Booker T open house - great resource. <https://www.ms54.org/high-school-information.html>
- Equity Team
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- Grade Rep Check-In
 - 8th Grade Rep - Sandra Temko
 - The Student Panel for non-specialized HS and Laguardia will be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, 7pm.
 - If you know of a student at a non-specialized high school who would like to speak at our student panel, please email 8thgraderep@ms54pta.org
 - Check here for high school admissions info: <https://www.ms54.org/admissions.html>
 - We are working on a yearbook. Please send in photos by March 1, 2022.
 - 7th Grade Rep
 - 6th Grade Rep
- Activities/Events
- Wellness Committee
 - January 12, 2022, 8pm, Wellness Workshop with Dr. Terri Bacow, RSVP: <https://zoom.us/.../tJYode-urTlpH9R2JC6URWcYFQWeQXUrCwFO>
 - CBT expert Dr. Terri Bacow, psychotherapist and author of Goodbye Anxiety: A Guided Journal for Overcoming Worry, will share practical coping skills that can be used whenever you feel anxious. Drawing from her just-released book, she'll explain how to identify anxiety triggers, change unhelpful thinking patterns, and develop healthy mental habits such as self-compassion. Come with your questions! RSVP: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYode-urTlpH9R2JC6URWcYFQWeQXUrCwFO>
 - <https://www.ms54.org/wellness-committee.html>
- Equity Team
 - In honor of MLK Day, January, 17, 2022, we are developing a school-wide project, details TBD. Will be a month-long project that involves families.
 - Future Equity Team Meetings: Mar 15, May 17 & Jun 9 at 7pm. equity@ms54.org
- **Unfinished Business**
 - SMS App - exploring various apps. Operoo?
 - Call for Volunteers
 - School Store - we need help organizing the store; we need volunteers to run the store
 - Dumpling Drive
 - Lighthouse Ride
 - Broadway Night - need volunteers to showcase your talent or reach out to talent. Recruiting family members and Broadway stars. Exploring a Broadway/Teacher Talent Show.
- **New Business**
- **Sports update**
 - Boys and girls basketball teams played at Computer School. Both teams won: Boys 42-41 and
 - Girls 27-4

Remaining General PTA Meeting

February 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

March 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

April 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

May 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

June 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.