



MINUTES

March 8, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m., Zoom Mtg

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMIlfuyqrD0tGt0-ATNul1cMXoK-B_i0LAqv](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJMIlfuyqrD0tGt0-ATNul1cMXoK-B_i0LAqv)

- **Call to Order & Minutes (7:00 - 7:05)**
 - Approval of February '22 PTA EB minutes (26 voted: 15 yes, 9 no, 2 abstained) **VOTE**
 - A moment of reflection for Russia-Ukraine conflict
 -
- **Principal's Report (7:05)**
 - In day 2 of COVID guidance and approximately 85% of the students are still wearing masks
 - School environment: still keeping the windows open and relaxing on the distancing of students in the room
 - Still planning to eat outside based on the updated guidance and eating in cafeteria is still on hold
 - Making additional conference school bookings available 3/9 through Jupiter as there is a low request rate for parent/teacher conferences
 - COVID testing still continuing with home kits still getting sent home with students if the class is infected
 - Please complete school survey as we only have 3% completion and survey code was sent home with students
- **Teachers' Update (Mr. Johnson + Mr. Erickson)**
 - Mr. Erickson (8th grade ELA)
 - Meeting with 8th students to help with essay writing
 - Focused on adaption writing with short writing and feedback on films, civil disobedience essay, mural project, analytical essay, interview and essay paper outside of student's comfort zone, Renaissance voices, poetry and with the goal to have a poetry slam to select the best 3 poems
 - Mr. Johnson
 - Lots of different activities outside of the classroom available for students through the afterschool program. Scholarships are available.
 - AAPI looking to put on additional activities with Indian Holi and looking to sample different food for Pacific Islander
 - Planning to make flag football available for everyone
- **Safety Update**
 - COVID cases are down
 - Drills: 1 lockdown drill by March 14th; 9 of 12 total completed
 - PARENTS:
 - Please tell them to clean up after themselves and to throw away litter
 - Dr. Elster asked DOE personnel to visit during lunch hours to observe and offer behavior support
 - Test kits – still giving out test if there is a classroom exposure
 - Lunchtime Protocol: Now, courtyard; but temperature: super cold, stay inside; Cafeteria is best for monitoring behavior
 - Haven't had too many takers apply for positions mentioned last month, we're still trying
- **Presidents' Report (7:15-7:25)**
 - Bylaws revision coming up
 - Nominating committee needed



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- Zoom Camp, during Winter Break: Glad offered, student stepped up to teach Rubik's Cube
- Broadway Night: March 20th, 6:30pm, Sunday
<https://shopms54.square.site/product/broadway-night-march-20th-2022-pay-as-you-wish-/132?cs=true&cst=custom>
- Kahoot Night by Shades affinity club, 2/28 at 6pm
- Affinity clubs, 3, will receive annual stipend to complement their fundraising efforts
- Craft Night w/ Dr. Elster, March 3rd at 7:45 p.m.
- Funding for comms app for school secretary – Dr. Elster
- Bylaws Revisions:
 - At EB mtg, discussed necessity of grade rep positions + class parents
 - D & O insurance payment due, being paid
- **SLT Update - Andy Weinstein**
 - Last meeting was Feb. 11.
 - Discussed:
 - Student safety and the process the school follows when handling incidents and discipline.
 - the pros and cons of open vs. restricted access to JupiterEd.
 - Our next meeting is this Friday, March 11, in Room 133, Teachers' Lounge
- **CEC/PC Update - Lucas Liu**
 - High school admissions process may change. Many parents spoke out about the screening process which was really a lottery.
 - March 10th CEC Business Meeting register [here](#)
 - March 30th CEC3 Chancellor Town Hall and CEC3 Calendar Meeting
 - Chancellor Town Hall registration information if not in persons will be [here](#), (currently the March 28th CEC12 Chancellor Townhall is virtual)
 - Submit a potential question for the Chancellor [here](#)
 - CEC3 vacancy, if interested submit an [application](#)
 - CEC3 has scheduled a meeting with NY City Council Member Shaun Abreu for March 16th 2pm. BTW is in his district. Would like to have 1-2 BTW PTA or SLT parents attend.
- **Ryan Health Center**
 - Vision exam program is in the works coming on March 5th to get a free exam and free glasses
- **School Grants Update**
 - Waiting to hear back about funding requests with DOE and city
- **After School Update**
 - New app: Active.com and still working through the few glitches
 - 100 students registered as of today and scholarships area still available
 - Winter Season: We'll run an extra week this term, through the week of March 22nd vs week of March 14th
- **Annual Appeal Update**



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- 63% of our overall goal of the annual appeal
- Mr. Wilson talked about how your donations are helping

- **Treasurer's Report (7:35 - 7:45)**
 - Healthy financial situation: total income: \$185,179

- **Community Updates (7:45 - 8:00)**
 - Teachers/Staff:
 - Passing of Ms. Trout, Chinese teacher
 - Fundraising
 - Planning to organize a family sports/basketball tournament to create a more in person setup and create more connection across MS54 in the spring
 - Dumpling Drive: Twice a year? Too much? - Tie to Ukraine? - vote: Yes
 - Broadway Night: March 20th at 6:30 pm, Pay-As-You-Wish
 - Next Meeting: Thursday, March 10 at 8:45am
 - School Store
 - Will order more swag
 - NEW ITEM! ==> Bucket Hats
 - Communications Team
 - Read the newsletter for updates
 - Grade Rep Check-ins
 - 8th Grade Rep - Sandra Temko: high school applications due on March 11th; Plans to have graduation activities
 - 7th Grade Rep - stepped down; did not submit formal letter
 - 6th Grade Rep - says can't do it right now; did not step down
 - Wellness Committee
 - Wellness Meeting is now also Tribute to Ms. Trout, Wed 3/2 at 7pm
 - Anyone can share stories about Ms. Trout so we can all grieve together and feel free to send emails to wellness@ms54pta.org
 - Equity Team
 - In February, had a community project honoring MLK to represent the entire speech, but missing 2 families to help with the lines
 - Next Meeting: March 14 at 7 pm

Remaining PTA Executive Board Meetings:

March 1, 2022 at 7pm

April 5, 2022 at 7pm

May 3, 2022 at 7pm

June 7, 2022 at 7 pm