

Minutes 12/13/17

Gen: PTA introduction. Introduction of Megan, director of friends of court square library

Megan: Booster Org. for Library in Citi building. Provide monetary support through fundraising, provide resources for branch activities. Be a branch between community and library. Act as a middle man to access what programs people want to see. Approach friends with ideas

Programs at Library:

Story times and activities weekly

Reference services and readers advisory – librarian can help child find the right book for the child's level. Help them find books that encourage reluctant readers

Online databases

all you need is library card to access these services

Read down your fees program – if child reads for 30 minutes fees are reduced by \$1

As of Oct 19 all fees for minors were wiped out. If new fines accrue, children should take advantage of read down fees program

You can get library card from Queens, Manhattan and Brooklyn. Just go to one of the local libraries to get card. Access to more books and audio books

Kids 3rd and up – spelling bee and study groups. Competition in May throughout Queens

Any questions?

Bree: Free downloads are available. Very easy. Great resource.

Megan – everything from picture books to adult titles. If you don't know how to set up device just bring to library for help

Gen: SLT update. MS SASF now has chess club. School still working on getting chess for all ages

Also discussed CHAMPS. Sports program for MS. Currently basketball, volleyball and soccer. Only 8-11 kids have signed up for volleyball, we need 20 to move program forward. Questions can go to Gen or PC

After school program- SLT is looking into other options at similar or less cost. Using one program that can handle MS, ES and recess program

Learning leaders – Teresa (PC) will coordinate parents who are already trained. Do not know yet how we are going to incorporate new parent

New Queens College student teacher working with 3rd grade. Working on getting student teacher from St. Johns

Common Core will be replaced with Next Generation Standards – we don't know yet how this will impact curriculum. State wide change

After school – language club, newspaper club. A lot of clubs for MS

Yoshi – Treasurers Report

Total Donations so far 20, 400. TA 1600. Recess fund specific 11,357

Fundraisers so far 18,239

YTD 38,660

Expenses- Kids Orbit paid 23, 598 so far

TA 21K, been paid

Total expense budget for year 157k we have paid 47K so far

Gen: school has asked us to pay 2500 for gym equipment. Vote needs to be taken

Parent: is current equipment broken or obsolete

Gen: yes and also population has grown

All yay zero nay. Vote passed

Gen: turkey trot. We raised 2500

Next fundraiser is fam jam on jan 19 at gantry loft. DJ dance party. Pizza, adult drinks. DJ Suhel is providing his service.

Bree: we are looking for wine distributors if there is anyone in the community

Gen: we were chosen for 2nd year in a row of UN Ambassador program. Project where students presents to ambassadors. Last year students did something on climate change. Hoping to do it every year.

Gen: we need volunteers and committee heads. We are looking to do intl potluck. We need someone who will run committee. We don't know exactly what it will be yet but we need help.

We need help on spring auction. Trying to secure date and location. We are updating sponsorship packet. We need corporate sponsors. Local sponsors and networking. If anyone know someone willing to donate let us know. Our goal is to raise 200k this year. Please donate if you can. Utilize corporate match.

Parent: school lunch, healthier option

Gen: we are still working on it. There is something called the alternative menu. Not totally different but has some better options and gets rid of some of the processed food. We will do a survey to make sure everyone is ok with us changing the menu.

Bree: we are working on it and have been for 3 months so hopefully if it's approved it will be implemented quickly.

Bree: we will do special recess fundraising push in January

Bree: we have talked to Ms. Collins to talk about anti-bullying programs at the school. We are working on getting other speakers to come address this topic.

Gen: the other thing we did was meet with director of LIC-A. Trying to implement art programs for free. We currently fund studio in the school. 6 week program for 2-5 graders. We are trying to build on that. Possibly with LIC-A. Possibly mural project and then art show at end of year. If you get a chance, stop by the gallery. All art is available for sale. LICartists.org

Parent: Is there a possible mechanism we can use to reach the superintendent in order to get art instruction weekly.

Gen: I want it and push for it.

Parent: Is it a city wide issue

Gen: it's not mandatory

Parent: Do other schools have funding for this

Gen: I don't know

Parent – Does MS have every week

Bree: yes it is mandatory

Bree: some kids do an arts program through SEM

Gen: we will fund studio in the school again

Parent: is the 11k raised so far going to be enough for the 76k we need

Bree; another fundraiser in jan