



PTO General Meeting - February 2nd 2022

8 board members present:

Co-Presidents: Idesha Fraser, Jenn Morrison, 282pto@gmail.com

Co-VP of Fundraising: ~~Mike Newman~~, ~~China Hoffman~~, fundraising@282parkslope.org

Co-VP of Outreach: Rachel Griffiths, Tamra Dixon outreach@282parkslope.org

Recording Secretary: Charlie Paradise, secretary@282parkslope.org

Co-Treasurers: Angela Bellisio, treasurer@282parkslope.org

Communications Secretary: Tamika Young, communications@282parkslope.org

6:03 Call meeting to order (Idesha)

- Call meeting to order
- December and January minutes approved (Jenn, Rachel)
- Review agenda (PDF in chat)

6:04 Meet the Interim Acting Asst Principal Ade Cox!

- Thanks to everyone who's made this a great first month
- Philosophy:
 - Best practices in classroom plus lived experience to give joy
 - Children learn by doing - we need to give them the thinking process combined with a community response to education to affirm them
 - Needs to be learning by doing in the community to build inquiry and desire to understand the world around them
 - A lot of concepts around students being producers rather than consumers. When we talk about civic engagement and learning - can we be engaged in civic politics?
 - Have to be some level of immersive engagement in classrooms with application
- Started off as a middle school science teacher
- Became science coordinator, and did a lot of work with the district science fair
- Finished education leadership program at TC Columbia University
- When he came here from Trinidad and Tobago, looked up to his cousin as a professional - who was an educator. Part of his upbringing.
- Never had a precedent as an adult engaging with others in the technology space.
- Resigned from teaching to make an EdTech company to use data to improve teacher practice
 - Smart classroom system and health data device
 - Seeing how physical and social development impact work in classroom
 - How do get assessments in the moment, rather than having to wait
 - How to address students who aren't so vocal in the classroom
- Came back to education 3 years ago, STEM work in K-5 and developed social/emotional curriculum around social responsibility, social justice, character development

- Jumped at the opportunity to work with Amy at PS282
- *Q: How do you divide up responsibilities?*
- Mr Cox is for K-2, Ms Sidbury is 3-5
- *Q: How to bring more motion into the school day?*
- Running a mindfulness session next week
- Lot of opportunities in Spring semester - such as clubs
- *Q: How about a boys club?*
- This is coming to fruition

6:25 Principal Rodriguez comments

- Other clubs are coming. Dance club. Art club.
- Selection for Glow girls was teacher nominations. For boys club, finding out where there is space.
- Other clubs will be opt in - art, book of the month, dance (3-5), photography, theater, STEM
- Mr Cox is a great thought partner to bring about her vision of the school
- *Q: Any potential for self-identification to join Glow girls or boys club?*
- For Glow girls, was teacher nominated based on specific criteria
 - Recognise the need for assigned clubs for those who may not be confident to opt-in
 - This was created for the girls who are vulnerable to having low self esteem
- Opt-in clubs will be a commitment for the rest of the year
 - Students will be able to rank their choices
- Happy to bring chess back, but need someone (a teacher sponsor) who can run it properly
 - Have reached out to teachers within the district who have chess skills
 - To be a club, needs to be sponsored by a staff member
 - This was historically a big element of 282
 - PTO is exploring an after school (enrichment) program
- An interim acting candidate (for asst. principal) is chosen by the principal, but to make it full time needs a hiring committee and an interview.
 - Part of labor relations and chancellor's regulations
 - The committee will rate the candidates based on the 4 questions asked
 - Then a second round with the principal who makes the final decision

6:38 Finance Report (Angela)

- Thank you families for your support
- January financial report
 - Income: \$15,711 in family donations
 - Expenses (I think I mentioned most of these at the last meeting):
 - \$300 admin (mailchimp, quickbooks, website)
 - \$1,258 Covid tests
 - \$1,306 End of year gifts
 - \$25,000 Tiny Scientist
 - \$400 Teacher supply grant
 - 40% of teachers so far have used their grants
- Budget Amendments
 - Additional Line item for Community Building- Monthly School-wide Book Club: \$2,500
 - Greenzone in Spring: Increase from \$3,000 to \$7,000
 - Greenzone is working with the NY Restoration Project on the rehab of the garden
 - The organization finds donors to invest and then organizes corporate teams to get the manual labor done. They employ professionals in different fields. So there will be experts in horticulture, gardening and fundraising.
 - <https://www.nyrp.org/en/>
 - If you want to give input please contact Agata at ps282greenzone@gmail.com
 - We have the funds for both of these items because of the generous year end donations from our families
 - Both motions have passed
- Mr Cox also does Terrarium workshops, happy to extend services for fundraising in the spring

6:48 Fundraising Report (Angela)

- Happy hour in March
 - Anyone would like to organize this with Angela, please let her know
 - Any ideas for raffle prizes, please let Angela know
- Spring Fair will be on June 11.
 - Looking for volunteers to chair and also to help us organize!
- Readathon is coming March 5-13
 - For every grade, each kids keeps a reading log
 - Also a fundraiser, but this is not a requirement
 - Everyone gets a prize, and those that read the most get a bigger prize
- COVID Test Bank
 - Please test after midwinter recess!
 - If you need a (free) test, please get in touch with PTO

6:53 Outreach Report (Rachel)

- Ms CC has been killing it on the tours, making everyone feel welcome
- Final tour! Pre-k only - March 8, 9:30 AM
- Kindergarten applications in.
 - Enrollment grew 1%, while most other area schools dropped significantly
 - May be extra classes

6:54 Communications Report (Idesha)

- Exploring community-building activities - want to ensure we hear from the parent community.
- We want to hear from you. What are the things you would like to have us highlight?
- Lots of ways for us to stay connected, so if you are not receiving communications, please reach out to communications@282parkslope.org
 - Newsletter comes out every Sunday - please subscribe to receive updates and information
 - Reminder to check your Spam/Junk Folders periodically as soon emails randomly filter to these locations
- Like us on Facebook - Park Slope School PS/MS 282
- Follow us on Instagram - [@ps282parkslope](https://www.instagram.com/ps282parkslope)
- NY DOE FACE emails - you can sign up via your NY Schools Account

6:55 PC's Corner - 282 Parent Coordinator, Ms. Collie-Cyrus

- Tomorrow, everyone is in purple for PS I Love You extravaganza
- Next week is Spirit Week
- DOE is going to give families take home tests before the break (next Friday)
- After mid-winter recess, March 3rd is parent teacher conferences
 - Early dismissal. Details to come.

6:57 Meeting adjourned