



## PTO General Meeting - January 13th 2022

### 8 board members present:

*Co-Presidents: Idesha Fraser, Jenn Morrison, [282pto@gmail.com](mailto:282pto@gmail.com)*

*Co-VP of Fundraising: Mike Newman, ~~China Hoffman~~, [fundraising@282parkslope.org](mailto:fundraising@282parkslope.org)*

*Co-VP of Outreach: Rachel Griffiths, Tamra Dixon [outreach@282parkslope.org](mailto:outreach@282parkslope.org)*

*Recording Secretary: Charlie Paradise, [secretary@282parkslope.org](mailto:secretary@282parkslope.org)*

*Co-Treasurers: Angela Bellisio, [treasurer@282parkslope.org](mailto:treasurer@282parkslope.org)*

*Communications Secretary: Tamika Young, [communications@282parkslope.org](mailto:communications@282parkslope.org)*

### 6:05 Call meeting to order (Idesha)

- Call meeting to order
- December minutes to be voted on next meeting (no quorum)

### 6:08 Principal Rodriguez

- Interim assistant principal has been identified
  - More news tomorrow!

### 6:08 Mr Sackmann (Music Teacher)

- Music is his life! Studied classical piano, studied composition
- Been teaching for 18 years
- Teaches both at 282 and a local middle school
- Started with summer songs
  - One of the parents donated a piano and we were off and running!
  - Trying to make things work with what we had
  - Kids took to the lessons - at this age, singing is joyful and something to share together and be proud of
- Is a parent of a 5yo and 3yo
- Planned to have 3rd graders play recorder, 4th graders ukulele, 5th graders percussion
- Been getting instruments and beginning to play as well as sing
- At holiday time, sang lots of holiday songs, starting with familiar and then went more esoteric
  - Understanding the verse and refrain
- Before Thanksgiving sang a few hymns, not overtly Christian, but spiritual.
  - Meant a lot to the kids. Nice to feel what this is
- Currently doing country songs about American outlaws to engage with the kids, get them excited
  - Country music is all about narration
  - Looking at literary devices, such as different point of view (1st vs 3rd person), protagonists vs antagonists
- After outlaws, going to move onto rap. Culturally relevant engagement.

- Hard to find appropriate rap, but with changing a few words, can make it work
- Also building on narratives and literary devices, protagonists and antagonists
- 3rd: With Omicron it's difficult to play the recorder right now due to masks
  - Have taken a few outside
  - Making movements in class, and that will have to suffice for now
- 4th: Ukulele, can sing along with yourself
  - Softer and fewer strings than the guitar
- 5th: Bought electric drum pads that simulate a drum set but can be turned down, so we can play in class and also be heard
  - Also getting an acoustic set that kids can use and also perform
- May be able to perform at 5th grade graduation
- Mr Sackmann may arrange pieces for all the instruments at graduation
- Still have budget remaining for instruments for now.
  - Down the road, might need to soundproof the room
  - May need sound systems for the auditorium
  - ...and a recording studio?
- How can parents help?
  - Listen to the kids. Support and encourage them.
  - Best to practice daily
  - Help tune the ukuleles

### 6:33 Finance (Angela)

- Income/Expense Report
  - Income
    - December was great month for parent donations: \$15,000
    - Happy Hour Income: \$700
  - Expenses
    - Teacher grants \$2,000
    - Staff Appreciation \$1300 - end of year thanks yous (custodians, canteen staff and security)
    - Tiny Scientist \$38,000
      - This is on hold for a couple of weeks so that we can have the maximum number of kids who can participate
    - Family Support \$1200 - covid tests
      - These will arrive in the next week or so
- Please support us with monthly donations!
  - We are a non-profit organization and donations are tax-deductible. Please email me if you want a receipt.
  - Venmo @PS282PTO
  - Paypal @282PTO or using our NO FEE [PayPal Giving link](#)
  - Zelle: You can find our account at [treasurer@282parkslope.org](mailto:treasurer@282parkslope.org)

### 6:38 Fundraising (Mike)

- More information coming soon around test kids
- PTO are purchasing them for community to use
  - School will be giving them away at no cost for those who want them

### 6:40 Outreach (Tamra)

- Maybe around 40 people for the next tour
- Getting towards 200 people who registered

#### **6:40 Communications (Tamika)**

- Please follow us on all channels
- 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](mailto: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](#)
- NY DOE FACE emails - you can sign up via your NY Schools Account

#### **6:41 Open forum**

- Nothing

#### **6:42 Principal Rodriguez**

- We have received a \$33,000 steam grant
- Thinking what the spending plan may look like
- May lead to several million dollars in the future
  - A fully functional greenhouse!
- Will be in the budget from Tuesday
  - Needs to be spent before the end of the school year
- Our new AP's area of expertise is in STEAM - great to collaborate with community to make this happen
- Had a lot of staff out with Covid, but were able to cover these
  - Expectation is that many staff will be back
  - By and large the kids are happy

#### **6:48 Meeting adjourned**