



## **PS10 PTA E-board Meeting Minutes // April 15, 2021**

**7:05PM** Meeting Called to Order by Jenn / Seconded by Jennine

- 3/11/21 meeting minutes approved
- Principal's Report
  - Thank you for your support! We used some PTA Covid funds to buy the Owl cameras and we got it so quickly! It allows clusters or anyone streaming in to interact with kids, it focuses on a child and transfers the picture and voice to the picture on the other side of the smartboard, and projects it for the kids to hear as well. We have one for each grade and some extras. Everyone including the quarantined cohort will be able to be taught together thanks to the Owl camera. PTA made that happen by allowing purchase of the special cameras.
  - PTA also enabled the purchase of iPads. They were trying to use iReady data to inform instruction, but it's hard for little ones so the teachers wanted to do it in class; they asked for a set of iPads that could be used in classrooms when teachers did iReady assessments. David Simmons would also come in and help. This will give us a better idea of where kids are academically as this pandemic has put them at a disadvantage, so we can see where to focus our work to move them forward.
  - Contingency plan: we are ready to go, waiting for OK from the Teachers Union, they are concerned about moving forward without the union and the DOE. We have gone through all the classes in each grade, and we can combine the cohorts to go 5 days as an entire school. They are ready to go, but have to wait until they get the OK from the Union along with the DOE. The Union has been court ordered to accept 3 feet, but for eating it's a 6-foot distance. The date of April 26th was what we projected.

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- Testing: 69 students have requested to be tested. They will be able to take the test without interrupting instruction for the rest of the students on test days.
- Revised school closure - K280 parents are to thank because they flooded the mayor and DOE with emails and letters about how it affects them when they have to close. They had to close because of being co-located with the middle school. Bobby Carroll and Brad Lander wrote a letter to the mayor on our behalf.
- Renovation grant - \$150K for updating the cafeteria - we had student council have the kids prioritize what they wanted to be done, and they are part of the process. Kids want water filling stations, soundproofing in conjunction with larger monitors to enable people to be able to watch what's going on in the auditorium. They also are asking to paint the cafeteria colors, possibly new tables (round was requested by the kids). SCA has already sent someone to talk to them about new tables. Better lighting and new floors were requested but not prioritized. The SCA is also moving forward with a \$10M grant including doors, windows, roof, new floors where there is asbestos. They are working on that beginning this summer. May not be able to have groups in the school because they may be doing work this summer on the building. Could start later if the after-school program wants to do something over the summer.
- Student council has been very active, they are talking about diversity and ways to stop hate, they have embraced literature around Asian families and it's being distributed to classes. The UN has reached out about doing Passive House Part 2. She has selected 8 kids to work on this. They want the kids to revisit the projects they did last year.
- She has been on with the mayor and chancellor, they want to bring the 3s program to K280. Not sure number of classes, but will have at least 3. If the radio station leaves the 3s will have their own building section if not they will have to reduce the number of pre-k classes. Usually they have 25 - 27 4 year old classes and will have to reduce to 22. The radio station [at the K280 building] has a site to move to but have to move their radio transmitter that transmits from the Vatican.
- Kindergarten is ready for stepping up, thanks to the gift cards teachers will have trinkets for the kids. We were able to set money aside for tee shirts for

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the kids and a packet of books. It will be virtual and teachers will decide on a picnic at the park or some other activity off-premises.

- Gary Nusser is working hard to make 5th grade graduation fun, they want to make it live, and use the playground to do something in person; may need to limit the participants who can attend from each family. They may also try to block off Prospect or 17th Street. We are going to have a separate meeting to discuss how we can make the 5th grade end of year celebration special.
  - Science is going very well, especially with 5th grade, Josette is supported by her mother, the former science teacher. [Susie Farrell](#) is the science teacher for 3rd & 4th Grade and has been very well received. League of Young Inventors reached out to get the ball rolling for the fall. There is some discussion about Ms. Venier returning to teach Science; it's a challenge to place people who are returning. Teachers get three choices not including the cluster positions, as an administrator she places them where they will be most effective but it's a balance. The PTA is committed to supporting the science program so it's as inspiring and educational as it can be; we can do this through push-in teachers and outside vendors with strong curriculum.
  - Ryan is the new music teacher, he's great and writes grants; he starts in September.
- Extended Day Report
    - Alex Low: Tents:
      - Vendor agreed to resize the order, DOB said we can put them up without a permit, the supplier had a backordered piece. They wanted to install them over the April break but that didn't happen. They'll be shipping next week, and arriving a week later.
      - If we put up May 1st, we have to pay to take them down at the end of the school year. We can incur installation and costs to take them down because ED isn't doing their summer program. If it's important to the reopening plan and the 5 day plan, we can do it. But if we decide it's not worth it we can install in the fall and do it properly, get the extended permit to keep it up longer than 30 days. By then teachers also might figure out how to utilize the outdoor space. We feel for the ED team on rainy days.
      - It was discussed that we could put them up before Labor Day, however, Laura wants October 1st. Kelli raised the point that if you

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put them up before the beginning of school, it will be less disruptive. Laura will go back to the AP team and discuss it with them first. We need to let the installers know now whether we want for spring or fall. Decision was made to wait until the fall.

- Heather raised a question about the playground reconstruction. The Trust for Public Land is getting us in line with the DEP to do tests on the playground and that will happen this summer. There is a request to Eric Adams' office for funding. Nothing is happening with this project this fall so the tent project won't be impacted. The project will be started and planned a year out from when the money is found; soonest would be summer of 2022.
- The tents are going to be solid enough to last at least a year. The permits are the main issue now; what Alex will do is discuss with a parent who has an "in" if we can request a 90-day permit instead of 30 days so we don't have to put them up & take down as frequently. The tents could be used at K280 as well. It's a great investment for us. It's important that we get the tents now so we don't have to deal with supply issues. If we store them in the basement we can block off our PTA events storage area, which we will not need to access until Tenstock.
- Nick Moons:
  - ED is intent on moving over to K280 and running their after-school; the plan is to move Queshema there to fully realize the program. ED is looking to hire an executive director who can manage both sites as well as be forward thinking, and start to implement bigger ideas.
  - Velma will remain operations manager and do the same work she's been doing, she'll just manage K280 as well. Our existing vendors would be part of that plan. There is a meeting Monday morning to talk about first steps towards setting this up with K280.
  - First, he will reach out to existing vendors and let them know our vision, it won't be run very differently from their current offering but we want to centralize security, dismissal, payments, registration for parents. It also gives us some leverage with our current vendors. It also offers us more real estate. Liam would stay at PS10, is the plan.
  - [Helen Thompson](#) raised that she would prefer that Queshema stay at PS10 vs. going over to K280. She has the attention to detail to know

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about all the ins & outs of the different kids and their special needs, allergies, etc.

- Heather thinks that there may actually be more work involved in setting up a program for the pre-k, and that Queshema would be good in that respect.
  - Budget: Spring numbers are down from fall by 22%, which is more than they anticipated. Can't count on summer camp to help with the budget because of the prohibitive costs of the permit [which prevented ED from running a summer camp]. Alex is keeping the budget balanced but currently as of end of March including the PPP loan, they are down \$35K. Will discuss in Monday's meeting how we can mitigate this.
  - Laura thinks once all students are going 5 days this may be helpful, as it doubles the amount of kids in the building, and the weather will be better. Registration is rolling, so we think more people will start going. We can also do a push to reach out to parents and bring them in. We will have ED make an appearance at the PTA Meet & Greet tables on the 29th & 30th.
  - Nattallie brought up that because recess is chaotic, they decided not to send their kids to Extended Day.
- New Business: Recess
    - We discussed potentially having ED help out with recess as well during the day, since E3 Sports only has 2 coaches, and they only conduct sports games; some kids want to do other things. The lunch ladies are vaccinated, so now can they be outside, or can parents come in and help out during recess?
    - Action item: We need more support, coaches, adults to oversee recess to keep it safe.
  - PTA Eboard, SLT, and Title I Elections (May)
    - Christie has offered to partner with Kathryn Kercher to manage the elections. Based on the by-laws we need to select someone who can work with Kathryn who is not running for e-board.
    - Action item: We need to know who is coming back next year, and who is out due to term limits. Within the next week or so, current e-board members need to let Presidents know what they are thinking.
    - There is a Title 1 position that is open. Wendy will be on the team.

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- There will be 2 SLT positions that are opening up.
- Co-Treasurers' Report
  - Financial Review Overview: PTA leadership will make edits to the documents as needed and approve them. Our review is reflective of the fact that we are a well functioning non-profit organization.
  - 2021 - 2022 Budget process is underway:
    - Budget Committee is active on Konstella & Slack
    - Budget Committee is making a parent survey
    - We are sending around a committee planning guide
    - Ann will reach out around events to plan budgets & who will be planning to lead each event.
    - In June we will vote in a general budget
    - What we didn't have in this year's budget is the push-in teachers, so we will have to work that back in.
  - Budget Report will be reviewed offline by e-board and presented during the general meeting next Thursday.
- Actionable items that would benefit from teams (sign-up time!)
  - Current Events:
    - Merch (Natallie) - We received new merch today, the new designs look great. We formed a new committee to look at new designs for the fall. For Mother's Day we are pushing to sell shirts and make up for these costs. Ann suggested we ask the Student Council to think about merch designs. We are also looking at different trucker hat designs.
    - BidFest & Talent Show - April 17 - May 1 (Heather) - Proud of the team, Nattallie has gotten everything into the database, Cynthia wordsmiths, Julie doing graphics, Maria doing the teacher raffle, Felicia donating things. We are full speed ahead for launch on Saturday. Monday the teacher raffle will be live. Announce auction Friday/Sat, Teacher raffle Monday. Talent Show will be May 1st (we will use the \$500 budget set aside for kids to upgrade their tech setup if needed), we have a promo video for it, we will have Joe Larson performing, and some parents will be his opening act. Auction ends at 10 pm. Sidecar making drinks, we will make some money on that. Will sell drinks the morning of the

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event & merch at the school. We'll have kids party bags as well for the talent show. We have 130 items up for auction.

- School Photos (Kelli/Felicia) - Follow up communications - 4/23 - 6/11 - If anyone asks for a makeup photo, for remote families, or 5th grade photos or retakes, that is happening the week of May 3 - 9 and you need to sign up 48 hours in advance. Everyone needs to reach out to [schoolphotos@pta.ps10.org](mailto:schoolphotos@pta.ps10.org) about this.
- Consent Workshop - 4/27 (Maria) - Rachel is an educator who will be coming to speak to parents & caregivers about consent; bodily autonomy, what is consent culture. For parents of older kids it will be different and will help parents teach kids how to advocate for themselves. On April 27th there will be 2 sessions, one at 5:00 pm for K-2 families and open at 7:00 pm for 3 - 5 grade families.
- Meet & Greet - 4/29 - 4/30 (Felicia) - Now that we have new merch she wants to sell them out. We need on each day someone to be there an hour at drop off and an hour at pick up. Goal is to have 2 tables at both corners of the school. We can use the opportunity to explain BidFest to families, we will have flyers with the QR code. We will also have Extended Day there. Jenn Cribbs and Felicia will be there, Kelli will be there as well. Go into the Meet & Greet channel on Slack if you can come. Jenn can work out the logistics of getting into the school for tables, etc., on Tuesday in her weekly meeting with Laura.
- Upcoming events:
  - New June Fundraiser (Felicia) - The Coney Island Cyclones is doing a fundraiser night. We get \$5 back on an \$18 ticket. They have stringent safety precautions in place. They take wrist temperatures, and everyone who enters has to have a negative test or Covid vaccine card. They are selling tickets at 20% capacity and seating will be in pods of grouped seats. We would get a link to purchase tickets and would have to sell at least 12 tickets. Looking at June 12th maybe. Felicia will share the details in Slack.
  - Discuss April Mind the Gap meeting
    - We don't need a Mind the Gap meeting, but we do need a Recess meeting, a Science meeting, and a 5th Grade meeting (5th Grade meeting is on the books for Tuesday 20th)

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- 9:48 pm: Julie made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Jennine seconded.