



PS10 PTA General Membership Meeting Minutes // April 22, 2021

7:00 PM Meeting Called to Order by Jennine / Seconded by Jenn

- [March 18, 2021 meeting minutes](#) approved
- Principal's Report - Laura Scott
 - Things are happening because of parents' support, in the form of letters to the Chancellor & Mayor's office; restrictions about testing and case closures have been revised. Admin and teachers voice opinions, but aren't heard the way parents are. Now it's 4 cases, not 2 cases to initiate closure of the school. And if a school is co-located like K280 is with a middle school, if one school has cases and the other doesn't it won't result in a closure. Thank you for supporting us!
 - Moving to a 5-day / week schedule:
 - Everyone is so excited about us moving to a 5-day program. With the amazing staff that we have we will make it happen. We submitted a plan to Central that was approved, showing how we would move from 6 to 3 feet in classrooms and at the same time making sure 6 feet was adhered to when kids were eating lunch. So the APs and safety committee worked on a plan that we'll share with our teachers and have the teachers fine-tune on Monday the 26th.
 - The Superintendent approved Monday the 26th to be an asynchronous day for all students:
 - We know Cohort B is upset, however we could not do it this week, and Tuesday the 27th begins standardized testing, with Cohort A testing on Tuesday, B on Wednesday, and remote classes on Thursday.
 - This day will allow teachers an opportunity to update classrooms, pull new furniture, and make optimal decisions.

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The UFT will do a walkthrough in support of teachers to make sure they are safe and their rights are addressed, and the safety committee will be involved in that.

- We will also be considering revising arrival and dismissal procedures. In addition to combining cohorts, 51 of our students are moving from remote learning into in-person learning; this is all happening simultaneously.
- We have to move Covid surveillance testing from the cafeteria, we have to talk about how breakfast and lunch will be addressed. We have to look at how the clusters will be delivered - music, science, art.
- Also the related service providers who will be delivering services to our children in school, not at home. Has to be done in a way that isn't disruptive.
- We made a call out to parents who are architects or contractors to help us erect a structure that's safe to have kids outside as often as we would like; teachers want kids to be outside with recess and exercise.
- To everyone who sent us ideas, volunteered to help, stepped forward to support us in our move towards a 5-day program - thank you.
- If all works out the way we think it will, the 5-day in-person weeks will begin on Friday, April 30th.
- APs have been great in trying to help the teachers gain access to whatever tools they can to bring children back in full time. It's double the amount of students. It's challenging to adhere to the new guidelines but we have an amazing staff and can do it.
- 5th Grade end of year activities - Gary Nusser, AP
 - We met as a group, PTA and 5th grade parents to figure out what we can do for kids this year. Graduation is on Friday, June 18th. We will be sending a notice and survey on Konstella & backpacked home with all this information.
 - There are 131 5th grade students; we looked at the budget and will cover gift bags for each student with diplomas, a book about going into middle school and t-shirts. We didn't collect dues this year because of the pandemic, but we have some generous families who have donated to the 5th grade committee.

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- We are looking at other activities like a trip to the park, roller skating, and trips. Any money we get from families will go towards that.
- The parent survey offers 4 options for graduation. Keep in mind that things keep changing, we get information like you do from Chalkbeat, etc. about new rules relating to Covid and gatherings.
 - Option A: Like last year, we did a remote ceremony and a drive by, we had a banner, kids got caps & gowns.
 - Option B would be an outdoor ceremony shutting down 17th street, renting 400 chairs. We can't do K280 auditorium, or the schoolyard.
 - Option C: Each class would do their own ceremony, they would be staggered throughout the day.
 - Option D. Some parents who are alumni or have connections at bigger schools, are reaching out to inquire about 3,000 person auditoriums, for example that can operate at 20% capacity (for example).
- Caps, gowns & tassels are purchased, everyone will get their own.
- 5th Grade School photos are in, we will resend the link to view. If you didn't get a photo, you can also upload your own photo to Stomping Ground, we will share the link again, so you can submit and be part of the big banner we will be doing.
- Yearbook: Heather Volik has volunteered to head up the committee. We haven't gotten a lot of responses to the info sent via Konstella, we are looking at doing through Shutterfly to do it quickly.
- Lunch release - First, we will be doing this outdoors in the dog park, and then later students will be able to go out as they have in the past; we will be sending home more information & permission slips for this.
- Update on grants:
 - We have received \$150K to restore & renovate the cafeteria, we are giving kids a voice in how we use these funds; the student council prioritized what they want to happen, including: larger monitors to see what's going on in different parts of the school, like auditorium; soundproofing; water bottle fillers & fountains.
 - Also we would like to repaint the space, change the floors, and purchase round tables to engage better socially vs. long tables. The School Construction Authority (SCA) ran with this plan, and are

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sending contractors in to do the work kids wanted. They've already looked at the tables, and new TV monitors will be 85 - 100 inches. The SCA will also move forward with a \$10M grant to change doors, windows, and fix the roof (The 4th floor had leaks because of the roof.) We will be getting a new roof & facelift as of this summer.

- Kindergarten offers went out: anyone who needs support, or hasn't received theirs, contact [Danny Depaz](#) or [Maddie Seide](#).
- K and pre-K stepping up: You'll get more info from teachers on this; it will be done via streaming, so people all over the world can participate. Might have a small gathering in the park immediately following. Will pass out gifts, t-shirts, etc., courtesy of the PTA.
- Middle School admissions: We do not have a solid date but mid-May is looking likely.
- K280 is expanding to a 3s program, we'll have 3 classes of 3-year-olds. Registration started already. We got a call from Central stating that classes are full, and would we do more - and we said no. We are full. We will have a total of 28 classes between pre-k and 3s.
- Principal Q&A
 - Q: Will the \$10M Construction impact the playground.
 - A: It won't, as it will start in the summer. Most of what will affect the playground will be done by September. K280 is also getting a brand new playground and will be done by September.
 - Q: Will we open the playground area at PS10?
 - A: Yes, will start allowing Kinder groups to use it and roll out to more. It's a small space.
 - Q: Will there be more supervision at recess?
 - A: We will be adding more resources. PTA may put in another E3 coach. Upper grades will be having recess in Mayrose Park.
 - Q: Will the Summer Rising program be hosted at PS10?
 - A: No, PS295 will be the first choice for the enrichment program. The principal from MS88 has openings to make available to PS10 kids.
 - Q: Are grades separated at recess?
 - A: 1st & 2nd are together, K and 3 are together and 4 & 5 are together at recess. We will be adding more supervision with

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the arrival of more students. We will also put more outdoor seating outside.

- Q: Will students move classes when we go to 5 days?
 - A: No, we won't, everyone will stay with their teachers.
- Q: What do you know about the fall?
 - A: The good news is, it looks like we won't be going to the size classes we have in the past. Money will be released to address class size. In September we anticipate having smaller classes. We just got that news.
- Q: Can we use 17th Street as additional space for students and teachers?
 - A: Teachers are concerned, and are worried, that there are people who will still manage to sneak around barricades. But we will discuss it again with teachers. We do have the ability to close the street, but the staff was reluctant because of safety concerns. Gary Nusser: In terms of opening up 17th St, we have to supply someone to be there all day to monitor the shutdown of the street and allow access to the block for residents. They are definitely utilizing outdoor spaces like the Butterfly Garden, and Mayrose Park.
- Q: If staying with remote learning, do clusters [e.g., art, science] change?
 - A: No. Clusters won't be doing in-person teaching, they'll be streaming into the classroom, we have OWL cameras that will zoom in on kids when they are speaking and cluster teachers can hear & see kids better, and they will be projected on the smartboard as well.
- Q: For students returning from remote to in-person, will they be remote until the 30th or no?
 - A: No, they will be transitioning back into cohorts A & B next week beginning on Tuesday the 27th.
- Mental health resources for students and families
 - Families have been asking about mental health resources. Maddie and Giovanni Oramas (school social worker) have collaborated on a resource doc for families that will be distributed soon.

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- Upcoming Community Events
 - PTA Executive Board, Title 1 and SLT Elections (Kathryn Kercher, Election Committee)
 - It's election time again! The last one was in October, which was late due to Covid-19. We just sent out a document with more information on Konstella, detailing roles, expectations, FAQs - [click here to view](#). Please read it over. She will offer an info session on May 4th at 6:30 pm, and she is also happy to talk to anyone if it's intimidating to go to the meeting. I encourage everyone to participate, you can see your vision through. Please consider it, reach out to me. The election is on May 20th, during the next PTA meeting. There is also a Title 1 Rep and SLT opening on the slate. Reach out to [Kathryn Kercher](#) for more information.
 - [Community BidFest Auction](#) (April 17 - May 1), Talent Show & Party (May 1) (Nattallie Schiavo)
 - [BidFest](#) is live, many in our community have contributed, the auction is doing great and we are approaching the \$6K mark in bids, thanks so much for participating! This year we have some great stuff to bid on, from camp weeks, to homemade meals, etc. We have bids from \$5 and up. We also have the [Teacher Time Raffle](#), to bid on an opportunity to spend time with your favorite teachers or even Ms. Scott. The May 1st party is free, it will start at 6:00 pm with a talent show for 4th & 5th graders and end with a lot of fun for adults. We will be handing out gift bags for all the kids to celebrate & cheer on our talented kids. Then we will have a party for the parents at 8:30 pm, featuring former PS10 parent, comedian Joe Larson - and the opportunity to win an amazing auction item! To celebrate the night, we are selling specialty cocktails from parent-owned bar & restaurant Sidecar as well - [click here to buy now!](#)
 - Consent Workshop for Caregivers - April 27 (Maria Leacy)
 - This is a workshop for caregivers hosted by Sarah Casper from [Comprehensive Consent](#) about teaching your kids body autonomy and the meaning of consent; one for caregivers of K-2 and one for K-5. We teach kids to be kind, but we also need to teach kids to stand up for themselves. [Click here for Zoom details.](#)
 - Title 1 Events:

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- Tomorrow is the first night of the Children's Theater Workshop Program at 6:00 pm!
- Title 1 is also doing a Positive Parenting Workshop about enhancing children's self esteem on May 10th at 6:30 pm. [Click here for details.](#)
- PTA Meet & Greet April 28 & 29 (Felicia DeVita):
 - We'll be at the school on Wednesday and Thursday the 28th & 29th outside school at pick up and drop off, come meet reps from Extended Day, PTA, talk about the election, and purchase our new Spring line of merchandise for kids and moms.
- School Photos (Kelli Hardiman) -
 - This year was different, thanks to parents who wanted to help out, sorry we couldn't bring you into the school. Things went really well from all accounts. The proofs for the pictures will be posted on May 3rd, we will post the link. Coincides with the Stomping Ground remote photo make-up sessions online, May 3rd - 9th. Stomping Ground needs 48 hours advance notice to register for a session. If you are concerned, check the proofs and if you want another photo you can sign up for that week. Order deadline is Tuesday May 25th, second is June 18th. Make-ups and retakes will be ready to view on May 21st. Reach out to us at schoolphotos@pta.ps10.org. Link to sign up: <https://iloveschoolpictures.com/ps10/4314>
- PS10 Merch Designs (Nattallie Schiavo)
 - We have gorgeous new tie-dye designs, blue, rainbow, and pastel rainbow, and the paint splash for kids. We have PS10 Mama t-shirts available for Mother's Day. [Click here to shop now!](#) For Father's Day we are discussing ordering trucker hats, and possibly belly bags, unisex tees.
- Save the Date! Brooklyn Cyclones Game: June 12 (Felicia DeVita) -
 - We're still working out the details but we are doing a PS10 Day at the Cyclones on June 12th, a Champions Hat is a free gift for a certain amount of people. For every ticket sale, \$3 goes back to the PTA. Details will be coming soon.
- Treasurers' Report:
 - [Link to Budget Report](#)
 - [Link to Budget Spreadsheet](#)

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- Annual Financial Review: Thank you to Kathryn Kercher, Craig, Velma, Alex & Jenn for completing our annual Financial Review. We do an audit every year because we are a non-profit organization. We got an A+ / clean bill of health.
- Budget committee and upcoming school community surveys:
 - We have a Budget Committee on Konstella to help families be part of how we formalize our budget for 2021 - 2022. Also we have a Budget Survey for parents, [click here to have your say](#).
 - We also need to hear from our committees, about what your needs will be for the upcoming year from a financial perspective. If you want to lead an event next year, and you have ideas, please reach out to us in the survey or through the committee. It's so exciting to get feedback from families - so we can make sure everyone's voice is heard and priorities are acknowledged. Teachers will also get a survey, slightly different from the one that parents receive. We want to make sure the funding we give is best being used. We will be voting in the new budget in June.
- Extended Day Report: Nick Moons
 - We are doing a Golf tournament fundraiser & community building event at the end of May, we will send something out soon. Friday before Memorial Day.
 - Thanks for putting together the Meet & Greet, we will have folks there to explain what we are doing and where we are. We need revenue. Expenses are fixed, our budget shortfall is worsening. We would like to bring more kids into our Outdoor Camp program.
 - We are looking forward to the fall; want to make sure we come out of it with a strong program that meets our needs, we are interviewing for an Executive Director role who can bring the program to the next level, expand it, manage our move over to K280, push our 4th & 5th grade extension into middle school, and other initiatives. As a committee we are managing that hiring process.
 - We are moving into K280, the after school program there was hectic and confusing, so we are working with Queshema who will be going over there to start up the program, structure, schedule, look & feel. We think it'll be good for the PS10 family, and for our current vendors, and our real estate issue.
 - Alex: Tent Updates -

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- The tents are on their way, but they're so late in the year, and installation is so expensive, we will not put them up before the fall. Decision made to put them up before the fall semester, to have for ED or others use. Also hoping to get a better permit to keep them up for longer. Thanks to Alex for pushing this process through, in spite of all the obstacles.
- 8:22 pm Jenn made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Jennine seconded.