

PTA meeting March 2, 2017

Attending: Harriet Fisher (PTA president), Catherine Bauroth (PTA treasurer), Ronke Tapp (parent), Rosalind Walker (former PTA president, PTA membership), Tim Graziano (assistant principal), Jill Francis (teacher), Sherphine Dailey (parent-school liaison), Pia Moller (parent, incoming secretary).

- **Montessori Lesson demonstration** by Jill Francis (Sensory board, “smelling bottles.”)
- **Approval of Minutes:** postponement of approval of January meetings. Motion to Approve February’s meeting minutes (moved by Jill, Catherine second). Approved.
- **Principal’s Report** (from assistant principal Mr. Graziano): flu season appears to be over. Dr. Freddie Thomas week: we had many visitors from professionals including a rocket scientist. The fill-in-principals for Mrs. Ramsperger are doing well, very smooth transition. Upcoming tests: ELA testing end of March, May is science, and then in early June written math test for 4th grader. K-grade 2 testing end of May. State has a push to move to online testing—at least for math.
- **Update from SBPT** (school based planning team): on Montessori Global—this year’s (2016) theme was New York State focus. Next year’s theme: holidays around the world. SBPT can do more—parents can do more input. We need to make parents aware of what the SBPT does—needs to be in a newsletter. We need to create a handout—bulleted is fine—to go out to all parents.
- **Update on construction plans:** school #16 will get an office on the first floor, otherwise no other major changes imminent.
- **Treasurer’s report** (Catherine Bauroth). Approved (motion by Ronke, seconded by Rosalind). Catherine solicits people to serve on the budget committee and the audit committee (the latter cannot have PTA officers on it). Budget must be presented to the membership for review (30 day review, in May) and we need a quorum (10) to pass it.
- **Funding requests:** Mrs. Francis discusses how she (and Ms. Seeley) taught Montessori Global and is developing from their theme last year (city parks) and make the next theme state parks—go to Niagara Falls state park. To do this they are resting \$600 from Montessori support to sponsor parents’ admission and kids over 5. Can cover some costs of transportation through Albany. Catherine asks for detailed breakdown of expenses before we vote on it. There is another fund for fieldtrip reimbursement. Smaller one from Kayla Harris, ESL initiative.
- **PTA president’s report:** we discuss whether to do scholastic book fair (a one week event) but decided it is too much commitment but we contemplate other ways to celebrate books and get books to our kids (Ask Toshia...). Book swap?
- **Events:** March 10: Family fitness night (org. by Mr. Cruz), participants include Kids on the Move, Healthy Kids (can help fund it too), Book Give Away, (books from RCSD?), Foodlink and others. Need volunteers to set up: Mrs. Dutko (music teacher), Sherphine Dailey, Kyle Semmel, Pia Moller, we can each solicit other parents. May 5: Spring Fling:

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