

PTA Meeting Minutes
10/25/17

Words from Ms. Hsu and Mr. Shevell

Please make sure kids bring jackets every day. Initially they can be put in backpacks, but children will go outside for recess even in cold temps. Mr. Shevell is currently outside for recess 5th and 6th periods.

"Families as Buddies" is the first and third Friday's of the month. It is a great learning opportunity for parents/guardians and keeps them better informed as to what is going on in the classrooms. Subjects will vary between reading, writing, and math. Please arrive on time by 8:20am on buddy days. It is disruptive when families walk in late. Emphasis this year will be on reading. Home reading is very important. Children should read from their 'just right' leveled books for at least 20-30 minutes a night. Studies show cognitive thinking, vocabulary, and creativity are all developed by interacting with texts. Parents should be role models and show interest in books as well as ask questions while your child is reading. Kids should be comfortable reading and text should not be too complex. Reading aloud to children is still as important as independent reading. A clever quote shared was "An app cannot replace a lap!"

Open school days will be in November. Info will be coming home shortly. This is a great time for parents to see what's going on in the classrooms and quietly observe.

Emergency Protocol Meeting was recently held. The following protocols should be used in the event of a school-wide emergency:

DO:

Call 311

Check email - a blast will be sent out

Check DOE website

Keep your phone line open

Enroll in Notify NYC

DO NOT:

Call the school or

Come to the school

* school phone lines need to be open *

Other important safety steps are as follows:

Be a role model and always have your ID when you visit the school. Please sign in every time and follow directions of school staff and safety officers.

Keep blue card contact info current

Only use entrances/exits that are open at the specific time that you visit so as not to set off school alarms.

New arts program "Studio in a School" has already started meeting with teachers in grades PreK- K-1. Their 10 sessions will start shortly. Teachers were also told how to incorporate more arts into the classrooms. Older grades will participate later in the year.

New Music partnership for 3rd and 4th graders called "Jazz for Young People". There will be 3 performances over the school year all on the topic "Let Freedom Swing".

5th graders started their dancing classrooms and are learning ballroom dances such as Foxtrot and Rumba.

New chess programs are underway. 2nd and 3rd graders currently have curriculum chess in the classrooms once a week.

Words from PTA Presidents

Additional members were elected to the PTA Board- Please Welcome:

Co-Financial Secretary = Heather Turk

Co-VP External Fundraising = Rebecca Kaplan

Co-VP External Fundraising = Anna Pine

Co-VP External Fundraising = Sarenne Sutton

Co-VP Membership & Hospitality = Susan Senyigit

Co VP Special Events = Debbie Camilleri

Boo Bash is this Saturday 10/28

Help is needed with decorating on Saturday morning. PS116 Alumni are encouraged to help. Please donate candy and baked goods

Tuesday 11/7 is Election Day - Schools are closed.

Friday 11/10 is Art Night. This is a whole new event this year. Young artists will be in the cafeteria and gym to direct kids with independent as well as group projects. Live music will also be in the gym. Pizza and bake sale too.

11/15 and 11/16- Parent Teacher Conferences - More details to come home shortly.

Tuesday 11/21 Thanksgiving Pot Luck - more info to come. Projects from Art Night will be displayed.

Book Fair will now be week of 12/4 -12/8. Stay tuned for more info.