



**PTA General Membership Meeting
October 7, 2020 9:30am
Via Zoom
Meeting Minutes**

- I. 9:36am - Meeting is called to order. Alexandra welcomes everyone and explains what we're doing today. Everyone to sign-in on the google form to mark attendance.
- II. 9:38am – (Carmen) Waive the reading of, and approval of the minutes passed.
- III. 9:39 - Treasurer's Report (Corinne)
 - a. 240K projected expenses, 240K projected revenue. Budget will be reviewed again as the months progress; working with Jacqui and her team.
 - b. Received 13K in direct appeal. Monthly donations really help income during these slow months.
 - c. Raised money from School Supplies, T-shirt Drop and the upcoming One Run.
 - d. Money spent has been on classroom & admin supplies, and credit card fees.
- IV. 9:41am – Principal's report (Jacqui)
 - a. Introduces Fish & Val who are helping to run the school.
 - b. Morton has been held up as the best version of a school in a pandemic – strongest and well run. Admin always open to ideas.
 - c. Jacqui shares the screen and shows the numbers related to getting school started: Number of delays, of blended learners, in-person students, fully remote, subs and teachers just to show the amount of juggling and scheduling that goes into running the school.
 - d. Students are being taught by 75 Morton teachers – most who are in person but some who are remote.
 - e. Money going into subs. As teachers go out on medical leave we'll have a seamless transition.
 - f. Curriculum letters will be sent by the end of the week. No curriculum night this year.
 - g. Parents asking for breaks in the day for the kids. It is a shortened day already (one hour shorter). Decision to make lunch longer. Advisory curriculum will be on pause. Any time students are home they should be off zoom. When they're home, cameras are turned off, but come back as soon as lunch is over. In the classroom, students will eat lunch, catch up on work, talk to each other (masks on.)
 - h. Recess (mask break) hasn't been figured out yet. School needs time. Every Cohort has to have their first day of school.
 - i. Parents, please stay behind the scenes – don't lurk behind the camera or off to the side. Let the kids have their own middle school experience.
 - j. Grading – no idea what the DOE is planning this. Morton is waiting to put out the grading policy until we hear from the DOE.
 - k. 8th grade advisory. There will be 8th grade advisory meetings to stay on top of the HS process. 8th graders will need to be on zoom during lunch on certain days.
 - l. When someone calls in sick (students or staff), the school has to decide if it's Covid or not. They call the DOE's "situation room" and describe the illness. They will in turn come back with a solution.



- m. Follow up on Advisory. Students will not lose the connection – whoever is your child’s advisory – is still your go-to person. Always can reach out during lunch, just not doing the same amount of curriculum during that time period.
 - n. Reminders (Jill)
 - i. If your children are not fully remote – daily health screenings are mandated by DOE. If your child has a phone, the link can be put there to answer basic Covid questions. Needs to be done every time a student enters the building.
 - ii. Blue cards. Please fill out your digital blue cards. The links are found in every PTA blast.
 - iii. Covid testing form was sent via email. You need to give permission for your child to have testing or not. Need that form returned. Hand them to their advisor.
 - o. Some of our cohorts are getting smaller. Considering combining some cohorts so children aren’t in classes with only 1 other child. Also makes better use of the teachers’ time. Parents may get a call if your child will be moved.
- V. 10:05am - Presidents’ Report (Stella & Alexandra)
- a. Get involved and volunteer! Do not have a calendar of fundraising events as of yet. Need to rethink how we’re going to fundraise. Asking if parents have ideas on how to do virtual fundraising events with parents, kids and/or both. Please share your ideas.
 - b. Cohorts & bungalows are confusing for everyone. If you have questions about your own child’s cohort – contact your advisor or Jill.
 - c. Communication. Procedures and regulations are all found in the family handbook online on the website. Website is up to date. PTA newsletters, Jacqui’s letters are sent to you, but also posted online. Elaine and Rachel (8th grade guidance counselors) have sent out 4 emails. Make sure to read them. Waiting for a lot of information from the DOE. We do not have the school creation codes yet. Will share as soon as the DOE releases them.
 - d. Please sign up for the Remind App – it’s a text app. Text alerts will be sent only if there is something urgent that needs addressing.
 - e. Upcoming events and initiatives.
 - i. Class of 2023 Meet and Greet. In the past this has been in the yard. This year an online event will be scheduled to give incoming families and students and opportunity to meet each other.
 - ii. 6th Grade Thunder Buddy Program. Want to transfer that to parents. Monthly meetings to get to know each other and give incoming families a resource with the 7th & 8th parents.
 - iii. One Run – Thursday, October 22 – Sunday, October 25. This year participants signup to run or walk the 5K wherever you want. You keep track of your own time. You have 4 days to post your time online. \$15 to register. You’ll receive a shirt and a link to ask for donations.
- VI. 10:15am - Manhattan Youth (Cynthia)
- a. Afterschool classes are online for now, but hoping to be blended at some point.
 - b. Please register and signup for one class if you’re able. Otherwise, register so it shows there is interest and enrollment, so funding does not get taken away. Everyone should do that.
 - c. Link for afterschool is on the website and in every PTA newsletter.
- VII. 10:17am – Expedited Election on October 21st



- a. DOE extended our terms mandatory PTA members: President (Stella), Treasurer (Corrine), and Secretary (Carmen). Only three working officially.
 - b. All positions plus members at large are open for nominations. Many members from last year are continuing to run.
 - c. A notice will be sent to explain the whole process and a list of responsibilities for each office. EB terms are one-year terms.
 - d. For the election, you have to be verified to make sure you're a parent or guardian. You don't need to be present to run, but you have to be present to vote.
 - e. Nominations from the floor. Contact nominations@75morton.org for more info.
- VIII. 10:22 – SLT (nothing to report at this time)
- IX. 10:22 – Old Business
- a. School supplies – 340 boxes sold, which raised \$5K. Thank you to those that purchased supplies and donated extra money. Keep the extra supplies at home until they are needed.
 - b. Thank you to Brian and Sasha, the yearbook team! All students will receive a yearbook. They were passed out to students who came to pick up locker stuff, and will be passed out to students in school. Those 100% remote, they'll get them to you.
 - c. School store. Buy some Morton swag and be on the lookout for next t-shirt drop.
 - d. Alexandra says farewell. She points out that both her children are going to different schools and 75 Morton is doing so much better.
 - e. Jacqui thanks Alexandra so much for all her help beyond and above!
- X. 10:28 - meeting adjourned.

Join us for Special Expedited Elections on Wednesday, October 21st.
Our next PTA meeting is Wednesday, November 18th.