



PTA General Membership Meeting

April 23, 2021, 9:30am

Via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

- I. 9:32am – meeting called to order by Maya & Stella, co-Presidents.
 - a. Maya motions to waive reading and approve minutes. Approved by PTA.
 - b. Reminder of zoom protocols – please leave questions in the chat.
 - c. Questions will be addressed during the meeting, in upcoming newsletters, or direct email.
 - d. Please fill out attendance google sheet form in the chat.
- II. 9:33am – Treasures’ report, Mike gives an update | ptatreasurer@75morton.org
 - a. PTA has \$137K revenue. \$84K comes from direct appeal. Increase in donations from 8th grade package. Short of our goal. If you haven’t donated yet, or like to donate a little bit more, please do so.
 - b. Expenditure of \$62K for general administrative expenses & counseling, and an increase this month on graduation expenses, \$14K.
 - c. Through April our net revenue is \$75K. We’ll be working with admin over next month to prepare budget for next year. Hoping for more events, programming and live events.
- III. 9:35am - Principal’s report, Jacqui. (Katie, Ilene, and Jill)
 - a. Hoping for in person next year, but planning for anything.
 - b. ELA state tests are completed today. No one knows how the state tests will be used. Passages were used from 2018 which seems unfair. Many students opted out. Opting out is not used against schools or teachers.
 - c. Math tests start on May 4th. Same schedule as ELA testing.
 - d. Opt-in for blended learning is shut. Going to adhere to the DOE guidelines which keeps middle schools socially distanced at 6 feet. The school is able to accommodate all students who wanted to come back.
 - e. 60 kids will be coming in next week. Cohort B starts on Wed. next week.
 - f. Working on graduation continues. Teachers have great things planned. Terrific lineup. DJ Larry telling us all what to do.
 - g. Have not figured out orientation for incoming 6th grade class, but working on it.
 - h. Morton day scheduled for the 14th. Val was able to fit another one in. Teachers love it and kids respond well, too. Community builder and fun!
 - i. Summer Rising is a summer in person program offered by the DOE. It’s open to all students, but Morton will request that some students attend because it will be helpful for their academic lives. Open enrollment. No one knows the curriculum yet, or how to sign up. Program will start after July 4th. Then Manhattan Youth will run various activities & sports. The program will be at Baruch.
 - j. Teachers were commended for their handling of talking about the verdict in the George Floyd case. Morton Teachers bear the responsibility of turning difficult conversations into lessons.
 - k. Read the PTA blasts and family letters. Everything you need to know is there. We send every bit of information so many times and yet people still write that they never got the information. It’s there. Information found in these letters will help you prepare your kids.
 - l. A question was asked in the chat if students will be able to come back to 5 days a week this school year. Unfortunately, no.



- m. Val speaks about Career Day on June 2nd. 33 speakers have signed up. All remote this year, so they don't have to come to school. They'll have links and then speak freely to each class. Requesting more speakers.
- n. May 6th at 10am a meeting with 8th grade parents is scheduled to share information about Regents testing.
- IV. 9:46am – Presidents' report, Stella and Maya.
 - a. Past events.
 - i. Cooking Class. Thank you, Cara, owner of Freshmade. We made pizza! The recipe is in our cookbook for sale on the Morton website.
 - ii. Workshop: #RacismisAVirus & "I'm Not a Racist..." Last two conversations were well attended. Part 2 of "I'm Not a Racist..." will continue on May 17th at 10am with our two leaders Renee and Ken.
 - iii. School photos. Stomping Ground gave us an extension through April 27th. Appointments need to be made 48 hours in advance. You have until the 25th to make the appointment. Please make them! We need to get the yearbooks done. If you have a camera shy you can send your own photo. A link is placed in the chat.
 - b. Upcoming events.
 - i. Pick Your Path: Improv – April 29th at 5pm. Open to all families. Families get to pick the path the improvers will take.
 - ii. Teacher Appreciation Lunch – May 12th sponsored by the PTA. A Padlet for families will be sent to post appreciative messages to the teachers.
 - iii. Dance Party – May 12th at 6pm – DJ Manny and Mark will be back as our dance captains. Just for students, teachers, and staff.
 - iv. Lost at the Smithsonian, an "escape the room" event. Prizes will be awarded for the first group to escape. Last event of the year.
 - v. For our last T-shirt drop, we received great designs from students. It will be up for vote for the students, and then available to families to purchase.
- V. 9:52am – Nominating Committee | nominations@75morton.org.
 - a. Beverly, Rae, and Ute. Nominating committee introduces themselves.
 - b. Nominating committee reads the instructions on nominations.
 - c. Nominations close at May PTA meeting – May 19th
 - d. Elections held at June PTA meeting – June 16th
 - e. Parents chime in about the joy and pride of being a part of the EB & SLT – and how you can be a part of making the school better.
- VI. 10:02am – SLT, Bruce | slt@75morton.org.
 - a. Focus on nomination above.
- VII. 10:02am - Committee updates.
 - a. Stella gives an update to Thunder Buddies event.
 - i. Mocktails were great!
 - b. Shannon gives an update on Neighborhood meet-ups.
 - i. Beverly hosted mini-golf this week.
 - ii. Coming up – a family picnic in Roosevelt park. 5 – 7pm. Bring blanket, picnic lunch, etc. Details sent out later.
 - c. Carmen gives an update on 8th graduation committee | graduation@75morton.org.
 - i. Bungalow zoom graduation recordings coming up next week. Wear caps!
 - ii. Asking for continued financial participation from families, please give what you can.
 - iii. Accepting photos from all grades for the yearbook.



- iv. Virtual graduation scheduled for June 17th and in-person diploma pickup scheduled for Friday, June 18th.
- VIII. 10:07am – Old Business – nothing to report.
- IX. 10:08am – CCEC Elections May 1st – 11th
- X. 10:09am – Meeting Adjourned

See you at the next PTA meeting on **May 19th**

2020-2021 PTA Executive Board

pta@75morton.org

Co-presidents (pta@75morton.org): Maya Brewster-Dorian & Stella Chang

Co-1st Vice Presidents: Millet Israeli & Corrine Moreno-Geis

Co-2nd Vice Presidents: Beverly Buscemi & Mark DeLaBarre

Co-Treasurers (ptaTreasurer@75morton.org): Angel Marshall & Michael Sobel

CO-Secretaries: Marcia George & Carmen Lamar Daehler

Members at Large: Jake Daehler, Jessica Dillman, Glen Friedman, Rebecca Lupardo, Shannon Meglio, Kim Shay