



**PTA General Membership Meeting
November 20, 2019, 6:15pm, Library
Minutes**

- I. Call to Order by Alexandra at 6:17 pm
- II. Review and Approval of Minutes at 6:17 pm
Motion to waive the reading of Minutes; approved Minutes
- III. Treasurers' Report by Christie Peale (Corinne Moreno-Geis absent) at 6:18 pm
Thanks to everyone for direct appeal efforts, which have raised \$53K so far; teachers are accessing class funds and enrichment funds, but need to raise more money to keep up with our spending rate (net revenue for October 2019 was negative \$5600). \$ also spent on musical instruments, mindfulness, art supplies, field trips etc. Need big push at end of year for direct appeal. Christie says feel free to ask questions!
- IV. Presentation by Ushma Neill, CDC2 liaison at 6:21 pm
Ushma is the liaison for issues that are important to school/district; she's a direct line to DOE or Superintendent for various projects (i.e. lead remediation, voting in more schools). CDC2 meetings are a place for parents to be heard and to voice concerns about things like diversity issues, increasing buses on the M20 route, lack of school nurses, initiative of Imagine Schools (for kids with print-based disabilities). Ushma needs support from parents (meetings can get heated!), so please look up meetings on www.cdc2.net or go thru Stella or Alexandra.
- V. Principal's Report by Jacqui at 6:25 pm
 - a. Two students got into a physical altercation and school safety officers intervened. NYPD officers reported to the school but that was a misunderstanding and not necessary. Rumors were addressed in Advisory classes. There will be counseling for the kids who were fighting. In future more staff will be overseeing the hallways during transitions. All consequences are determined by the Chancellor's Regulations, per the DOE. All communication with the parent body is also determined by the DOE.
 - b. Out Lunch suspended for one day. Meeting with kids to discuss neighborhood etiquette.
 - c. M20 bus service is infrequent and the stop is underserved. Jacqui will call Corey Johnson's office. Ushma and PAC will address. Parents can call 311 to complain about the lack of bus service.
- VI. Presentation of School Safety Procedures by AP Katie Altman at 6:50 pm (This is a required presentation to the PTA)
 - a. Katie presents a review of School Safety Agents (SSA) and protocol. SSA's are Byrd, Concepcion, Gardner, Jackson, Ortiz.
 - i. Evacuations: there are FDNY holding rooms for people who physically can't get out of the building and FDNY knows to check these. Kids know to use closest stairs and to move away from building until "all is clear." Have to do 8 drills as of end of December (one left).
 - ii. Soft lockdown: no imminent danger, practice 4 times a year (already done 2), doors are locked and kids hide, a staff member sweeps the halls for any wandering kids and gets them to a safe place.
 - iii. Shelter-in: when something happens outside of school perimeter no one can enter or exit the building and doors are secured.

- iv. Hard lockdown: means imminent danger and it's the same as a soft lockdown but no one will sweep hallways.
 - v. Safety mtgs are once a month. If parents have concerns let admin know and they will bring it up at mtg.
 - b. Jill Bennett met with local businesses re: Out Lunch. She suggested the possibility of "parent-walker," so parents have a presence on the street during lunch. If interested, contact Kim Bible or Valeri McNulty.
- VII. Presidents' Report by Stella and Alexandra at 7:03 pm
Vote to Revise PTA/EB meeting times: Bylaws say the EB meetings can take place at 8:15 am or 6:30 pm and we want to change to 8:45 am. Also change PTA meetings to 8:45 am or 6:30 pm
Vote is taken and passes.
- VIII. Past Events at 7:05 pm
- a. One Run: \$2,300 raised. Need someone to run this next year.
 - b. Mix & Mingle: Fun time!
 - c. Fright Night: 6th graders had a blast; thanks to volunteers and co-chairs Antonia Hinman and Vanessa Brown.
 - d. Candy Drive for Soldiers' Angels: over 100 lbs. of candy. Thanks to Beverly Buscemi
 - e. Family Portraits: raised at least \$5K! Hope for even more next year!
- IX. Upcoming Events at 7:10 pm
- a. Friendsgiving Pie & Cider Open House: Friday, November 22nd at 4-6:30 pm
Thanks to all families who are donating the goods; whatever is left over goes to soup kitchen, please come!
 - b. Bowl-a-Thon – Sunday, December 8th promoted by Cathy Curtin
This was successful last year. Need volunteers and some 6 and 7 grade parents to take it over next year.
 - c. Auction Kick Off Meeting – Friday, January 10th
Stella says please get involved! Budgeted to raise \$145K.
- X. School Leadership Team (SLT) Report by Bruce Schlein at 7:16 pm | slt@75morton.org
- a. In the SLT Meeting: Talked about time limitations of parent/bungalow conferences, what to do when a parent wants more time, how to contact teachers etc. Also had discussions about clarifying progress reports, report cards etc. Once the high school applications are finished, this will be reviewed.
 - b. Discussion regarding equity issues and what it means to parents and kids in our school. How Renee and Ken will observe at Morton and then share their findings. (Reminder: They were brought in even though there isn't a specific issue in the school.)
 - c. Jacqui's input: Also updating family handbook and will do another Workshop on grading.
- XI. Committees & Events 7:19 pm
- a. Fundraising (Alexandra): Giving Tuesday is Dec 3. This Tuesday will do a big push.
 - b. 8th Grade Committee Report: Nick Gottlieb (Ilene Zucker, Kim Youngberg, Kim Shay).
Email going out to 8th grade parents with list of what's going on (breakfast, class picture, class trip, t-shirt, yearbook). Mon June 22nd is Graduation in an auditorium in Brooklyn that seats 1000+ (3 tix per student), Need volunteers for Graduation Party! PTA will underwrite some of these expenses, but asking \$175 from each 8th grader (payment plans available, possible to underwrite another student(s)). Kim and Rob Y model the cap and gowns.
 - c. Gardening Committee | garden@75morton.org
Elizabeth: looks great; meeting in Jan re: Spring plans.



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- d. Community Building | 75 Morton Cares: Filled out survey in some coding classes, but still filling out.
 - i. Our first event (TBD) – Thursday, January 23rd
 - ii. Toy Drive for Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital – Week of January 13th: extra toys/duplicate gifts UNOPENED and NEW

- XII. Old Business: 7:23 pm, none.

- XIII. New Business 7:23 pm
 - a. School Store Special Hours Pre-Prep Rally – Thursday, December 12th & Friday, December 13th (lunch) SWAG will be available, notices will go out so kids can bring in \$. Will also be open prior to the 75th day of school (1/9).

- XIV. Adjournment 7:25 pm

See you at the next PTA meeting on Wednesday, December 18th, 8:45am in the library!

2019-20 PTA Executive Board pta@75morton.org

Co-Presidents (pta@75morton.org): Stella Chang | Alexandra van Schie
Co-1st Vice Presidents: Kim Shay | Kim Youngberg
Co-2nd Vice Presidents: Mark DeLaBarre | Irma Gomez-Dib
Co-Treasurers (ptaTreasurer@75morton.org): Corinne Moreno-Geis | Christie Peale
Co-Secretaries (ptaSecretary@75morton.org): Carmen Lamar Daehler | Meredith Hays
Members at Large: Beverly Buscemi | Maya Brewster Dorian | Millet Israeli | Jacqueline Luxenberg