



# 75 MORTON | MS 297 NYC

**PTA General Meeting  
September 13, 2023 at 9:00 am  
Location: School Cafeteria**

## **Meeting Minutes**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Review June 2023 Meeting Minutes: Motion to Waive. Seconded.
- III. Treasurers' Report:
  - Presented by Corinne (past Treasurer)
  - Statement of Activity distributed
  - Assets: \$350K, including \$100K pre-COVID grant for technology expenses only. PTA can vote to spend some of balance; could decide to spend on grant for personnel.
- IV. Principal's Report - Principal Cofie: Working on changes. Priorities include:
  1. Ensuring safety and smooth transitions. Making sure all areas of school are covered throughout the day and students whereabouts are kept track of.
  2. Supporting growing ELL student population. We have 2 experienced full-time ELL teachers to support students and teachers. There are legal requirements regarding hours of ELL instruction that must be provided. Grouping classes is complicated and we rely on things like Google Translate because we don't officially have a bilingual program (that requires a DOE proposal and process; we are not there and don't know if we are going that direction)
  3. Accelerated programs. New this year, accelerated math for 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grades. Working closely with district.
- V. Presidents' Report - Corinne & Lili
  - A. Special Election for PTA Executive Board & School Leadership Team
    1. SLT: Election for two open seats. Statements given by candidates Tanya Dupey, Amanda Weare and Robin Lamb. Paper ballots submitted by meeting attendees and counted by Secretary. Tanya and Robin received the most votes and were elected to SLT. Both are parents of 7<sup>th</sup> Graders.
    2. SLT: One spot reserved for a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade parent. Sara Apfel nominated and voted in by one vote cast by Secretary Elly Guirovich.
    3. EB: Uncontested nominations voted in by 1 vote cast by Elly: Treasurer: Karla Carvalho; Co-Secretary: Amy Scott; Members-at-Large: Aria Rivera, Jordan Slavov, Andrea Leal.
  - B. Coffee Talk w/ Hope, Sept 29 @ 9AM. Monthly event. First topic: boundaries vs. independence with guest Sean Grover. Hope is also seeking middle school size clothing for donations closet.
  - C. Fright Night (6th Grade) – Halloween party; need volunteers
  - D. School Store - need volunteers
  - E. Committees - 8th/7th/6th Grade Committee, Yearbook, Community Services (drives), Community Building (Parent Mixers/Family Socials), etc. – need volunteers

- F. "Todos" New school club – afterschool activity. Latin students association, all students welcome.
- G. "Cheat sheet" distributed to attendees with important school info such as Jumpro.pe website for grades, info on planners, email to contact in case of absence, etc.
- H. "Bring a friend next time" – to increase PTA involvement

VI. Manhattan Youth Afterschool Program - [Cynthia De Leon](#)

- A. Many offerings, activities and sports after school every day M-F starting Mon, 9/18
- B. Two daily sessions. Early session runs until 4:30, late session until 5:45
- C. Chess, sign language and debate returning in winter if Cynthia can find a teacher
- D. MY program was founded on previous enrollment number of 800 students. There could be cuts to funding in the future. Sign up. The more students that participate in MY programs the better it is for funding and the more programs they can offer.
- E. New, for 8<sup>th</sup> graders only: free SHSAT prep and art and vocal audition prep for arts high schools
- F. No bus service home after MY activities. Yellow buses leave school only at 3pm. Students who take the bus to school are not entitled to free Metrocards (it's either/or). Cynthia acknowledges this flaw in the system and has brought this up to MY funders.

VII. Teacher and Staff Introductions:

- A. Cristine Maisano, UFT chapter leader and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade teacher. Wants teachers involved with PTA.
- B. Donna Santman, official UFT parent liaison. Will be at every PTA meeting. Librarian. Needs parent volunteers to help with library. Sign up today on meeting attendance sheet.
- C. Level 3 Security Agent Hyland. Last year was rough; looking forward to a better year. Talk to your kids. Tell them if they are having any issues to talk to her or the other 3 school security agents. Do not bring weapons, toy weapons or pepper spray to school.
- D. Sixth grade teachers Kate Crowley (Social Studies; Restorative Justice); Sarah Vasilik (Math); Brian Curry Hartman (Special Ed, Social Studies, Lego Robotics afterschool)

VIII. Old Business

IX. New Business

X. Adjournment

**2023-2024 PTA Executive Board**

[pta@75morton.org](mailto:pta@75morton.org)

Co-Presidents (pta@75morton.org): [Corinne Moreno-Geis](#) & [Lilibeth Feliciano](#)

1st Vice President: Daniele Strain

Co-2nd Vice Presidents: [Karl Apfel](#) & Yodit Walker

Treasurer (ptaTreasurer@75morton.org):

Secretary: [Ellen Guirovich](#)

Members-at-Large: [Erika Soto Lamb](#)