



PS11 PTA General Membership Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2023 | 7:05 pm ET | 200 Participants

Welcome (Co-President, Seble Tareke-Williams) – The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. Meetings usually start with a Treasurer Report but as the semester had just commenced, there was none for August.

Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting (Recording Secretary, Richa Naujoks) – Richa read the minutes of the last meeting on August 30. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes as read were approved.

Upcoming Events (Seble Tareke-Williams) – Details were provided for:

- Movie Night on October 6.
- School Wellness Committee get-together on September 22.

Co-Development Chairs (Naomi Hightower and Caitlin Dourmashkin) – Naomi outlined ways in which families can support the school:

- Boxtop for Education (<https://www.boxtops4education.com/s/>)
- Corporate grant matching
- Donation of shares

She also introduced Raise 11, the biggest PTA fundraiser and party of the year, which is on May 17 this year.

Caitlin asked for volunteers to join a group that can apply for grants, initially for swim, garden and music. Volunteers can make a difference for the school, working from the comfort of their own homes. If anyone is interested, please email grants@ps11bk.org.

Call for Action (Seble Tareke-Williams) – Seble made two calls for action:

- She echoed Caitlin's call for volunteers to join the team of grant writers.
- If anyone has contacts with vendors who can donate swim gear, please contact volunteer@ps11bk.org.

ASE Update (Simone LeConte-Parker) – ASE Director Ms. LeConte provided an update on the ASE programs. She told families how to download Fetch Kids which is used for dismissal after ASE. If you're having issues, or need a pin to sign up, please email support@fetchkids.com.

Ms. LeConte also provided a few additional updates and requests:

- Students are discouraged from bringing toys, Pokemon cards, or electronics (such as iPads) to after-school.

- Families should label kids' clothing, lunchboxes, etc.
- Homework help is from 5-6 pm, and if kids are consistently picked up before 6 pm, they will not be able to complete their homework.
- Late pickup fees have been cancelled for the month of September.

Administration Report (Assistant Principal Rand) – Mrs. Rand spoke about a few things:

- The power outage on the first day of school.
- Student assessments are being carried out in order to provide the best support for each student during the year.
- Morning meetings are held every day to foster social emotional development, and the entire school practices the 16 Habits of Mind.
- NYS Math and ELA test results are out. PS 11 has again outperformed schools in the city and district. Exact percentages can be shared at the next meeting.
- Classroom teacher can provide students' DOE email address (which is a Gmail account), and pin to access google classroom (which is at <https://classroom.google.com/>). This is separate from the myschools.nyc account, which is only used during admissions.
- Enrichments are starting for capoeira, djembe drumming, gardening, etc., and tryouts for dance troupe and basketball.
- Parents as learning partners will start for pre-K through grade 2.
- Mrs. Rand encouraged grownups to reach out to classroom teachers if they are interested in being class parents.
- A parent workshop will be held in October on Next Generation Learning Standards in ELA and Math, and another on the 16 Habits of Mind.
- Several of the 150 desktop computers arranged by Shegun Holder and Tech Fin, for 4th and 5th grade students have been picked up, and any remaining desktop computers can be picked up on September 22 during drop off and dismissal.

Mr. Rand gave an update on the Dad's meeting held the prior week. Seble announced that the first school tour is on October 19.

The floor was then opened for questions. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.