

MINUTES

NEW YORK HARBOR SCHOOL PTA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

October 19, 2021 @ 6:00 PM, ZOOM CALL

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

AMY KOZA AND IAN MCGRATH **CO-PRESIDENTS**; DONNA COPPOLA AND CHRISTINE CONIGLIO **VICE PRESIDENTS**; TAMARA JOHNSON **TREASURER**; RENEE ALEVRAS AND BRIDGETTE BETHEA **RECORDING SECRETARIES**; ELIZABETH KIRK, GRACE MAK, TRICIA GARCIA, KOKO, DEBRA SITO, DAVID CHANG, STEVEN SPOSITO, CARAID O'BRIEN, MAUREEN PACKER, NATHALIE ROBBINS, NAN RICHARDSON, ALEX AND CAS STACHELBERG, **CTE REPRESENTATIVES**

REPORTS & DISCUSSION: 20 MINUTES

- Welcome (Amy Koza & Ian McGrath, Co-Presidents) at 6:00 pm.

Attendance survey taken and welcome to mini election to fill open positions on the board and committees. Minutes posted from previous meeting for approval. Approximately 58 people attended the meeting.

Nomination list provided and candidates ran unopposed for Co-VP, Co MST Rep, SLT, Marine Bio Reps, Freshmen Reps, Ocean Engineering Rep. Available candidates introduced themselves.

Co-treasurer position is still open. Co-Marine Policy rep still open.

- Motion for Open PTA Positions and all candidates approved as uncontested without objections.
- Treasurer's Report (Tamara Johnson, Treasurer) see attached for details.

As of Sept 30 2021 Total PTA Funds in Chase and PayPal Accounts \$65,439.90 with approx. \$1500 in revenue and approx. \$200 in expenses. Reminder to use ShopwithScripts and make donations correctly via PayPal.

- Review & Accept Minutes from September 2021 meeting (Renee Alevras and Bridgette Bethea, Co-Recording Secretaries)

NEW BUSINESS: 20 MINUTES

- Call for Volunteers (Amy Koza spoke on behalf of Donna Coppola, VP)

PTA positions open for Co-Senior Committee Chair, Fundraising Chair and Committee, We are looking for ideas for virtual events, please email Amy, Ian and Donna if you are interested; there are lots of opportunities to volunteer in person for clean-up, committees and activism.

- Information on IEP Support (Elizabeth Kirk) – postponed N/A.
- School Store + Internship Opportunity (Amy Koza) we are working with the Policy Students/Rob to merchandise, purchase, and provide internship opportunity, DECA program curriculum software; work will fulfill required internship hours, PTA will be investor and support running the store; volunteers needed, opening TBD.
- Work Based Learning (Amy Koza) Working Papers information will be posted on the PTA area of the School Website. Parents can support the students getting their paperwork in order for work and internships.
- Halloween Dance - October 29 (Amy Koza), special ferry 4-8 pm, chaperone arrangements, DJ and food, details TBD.

COMMITTEE UPDATES: 25 MINUTES

- Communication: (Ian McGrath) Meetings to be held on Tuesdays. Please get in touch if interested. We produced a video last year. Send out school information.
- Cookbook: (Nan Richardson) Families and Harbor Staff contributed personal recipes and stories to the cookbook we produced last year. Please come forward to purchase copies or pick up if you already ordered. Money goes to the PTA.
- Sustainability: (Amy Koza + Nan Richardson) School-wide Clean Up + Pumpkin Smash with Rob M. Girls Locker Room and Storage Rooms to be organized and put to better use. Wellness room. Invite parents to help at school to clean and paint. Looking for volunteers.
- SEA - School Expansion/Advocacy: (Nan Richardson) Delicate situation after adversarial meeting with SCA School Construction Authority with new crew of administrators. No lease or commitments yet to the land and area around the building so that we can make sure we get what we need. We need more than a mini gym/pool and need to make sure we get equity with other schools, the facilities we need for our students, and provide the amenity we sold to the

community at large as well. Alex and Cas Stachelberg remind us that the Diving Program needs access to a pool this year at BMCC. Bushwick pool is not available. Call to vaccination so that the diving students can use the BMCC pool. Need to pressure the community boards. Zac Martin offering political push to elected officials. Grace Mak spoke to Chris Marte on City Council.

- Senior Class Committee: (Jeannie Cretara) N/A
- Post-Secondary Guidance + Guest Speakers: Call for Volunteers (Amy Koza) PTA is hoping to put together college fairs. Teachers, parents and Admin working together to bring in colleges.

GUEST SPEAKER ROB MARKUSKE: 10 MINUTES

▪ Marine Policy and Affairs CTE lead instructor, Rob Markuske, introduced sustainability as a driving force in the CTE. Our new program is up for state approval. We have analyzed sustainability in careers and curriculum. State certification and endorsement pending. Incorporated the garden into our curriculum. Working on cooperation with SUNY Stonybrook and Students for Climate Action. We are pioneering the program and pursuing legislation with a Harbor Alum student teaching in the classroom. We are undertaking an Energy Audit of the School. Compost and recycling, redesign in the mess hall to monitor and reduce waste. Public outreach program. Afterschool and before school component. Room for parents to get involved. November 3 Pumpkin Smash Event – food waste as a resource. 12th Grader Student Senior Marcel is on a Project Panel with City Council Candidates and Earth Matters discussing sustainability in schools on Sunday Oct 24. Video of Harbor School Cafeteria “Closed Loop” composting program to mitigate climate change, mini documentary.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT JEFF CHETIRKO: 20 MINUTES

▪ Principal’s Report at 7:10 pm. Afterschool and before school clubs programming is available and publicized to the students. Please encourage your students to join. End of 1st marking period Friday 10/22 is a progress report for students. 6 Marking periods in the year. Parent Teacher Conferences will be virtual, Nov 10 and Nov 12. More info to come. Nov 2 is Election Day, remote learning for students. Nov 11 Veterans Day holiday. Covid testing at Harbor School for students with consent on Fridays. Virtual Open House for middle school admissions coming up. Uniforms are in and available to students to purchase during lunch period. Spirit Week coming up and uniform will be enforced afterwards.

Aneal Helms (Asst Principal) – We are starting new group with Eric Nolan EMOJA – recruiting young men on Nov 1 for mentoring, networking, guidance and business development. Incentivize kids to get involved.

Math and Dessa Assessments coming up. 9th and 10th graders receiving baseline assessment to help measure growth over the years.

Individualized surveys for social and emotional health of students working with small groups and teachers. Looking at Social Emotional Learning in the classroom; team building; meditation techniques; balanced with academics. Creating relationships with the teachers. Senior trip is TBD. Waiting for DOE approval. Anxiety of students during return to school being addressed.

▪ Q & A with Jeff

Ronnie on medical leave.

Bullying is taken seriously at school. Please reach out immediately.

Working on internships and ISP (virtual) for this year, especially in spring semester.

CTE UPDATES (IN BREAKOUT ROOMS): 10 MINUTES

- Aquaculture: (Elizabeth Kirk and Grace Mak)
- Marine Biology: (acting - Nan Richardson)
- Marine Policy & Advocacy: (Debra Sito)
- Marine Systems Technology: (David Chang)
- Ocean Engineering: (acting: Caraid O'Brien)
- Professional Diving: (Alex Stachelberg and Cas Stachelberg)
- Vessel Operations: (Maureen Packer and Nathalie Robbins)
- Freshman Families

PARENTS' QUESTIONS: 5 MINUTES

■ After breakout rooms, some families came back to chat and recap with targeted Q&A. Meeting ended at 745 pm. Meeting available on video and transcript posted to PTA page on the website.

NEXT GENERAL PTA MEETING TUESDAY DECEMBER 21, 6-8 PM ON ZOOM
