

Exec Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 9th, 2015

Room 518

6:00 - 7:00pm

- A. Welcome** 3 mins
Attendees: Annette Tacconelli, Brenda Hill, Kristi Craig, Meibell Contreras, Caryn Davis, Dawne Marx, Lisa Bleyer, Julia Parker, Susan Beschta, Emmanuelle Chiche, Robin Goldstein, Sharon Ullman, Dionne Darbouze, Cynthia Copeland, Patricia Janvier, Bob Lubetsky
- Imebet called the meeting to order.
 - Minutes from 6/1/2015 meeting approved.
- B. Treasurer's Report** 3 mins
Treasurer's Report will be presented next week Monday night via a conference call.
- C. Committee Reports**
- a. **Family Contribution - Liza Murphy** 3 mins
Liza was not present. Family Contributions are all good. There were some one time large contributions last year that we do not anticipate being repeated. (i.e. someone got married and donated a huge sum). There will be weekly blasts sent out seeking Family Contributions. \$600/child/year can be paid in a lump sum, monthly ... There is a Pay Pal fee per service. Alternatively, checks can be sent to the PO Box on the newsletter.
- b. **Back To School Fundraiser – Andy & Courtney McDowell** 3 mins
This Saturday! Andy & Courtney have a bar in Williamsburg called Pete's Candy Store. They provided the space and beverages. PTA will pay for servers and food. Music will be lined up. Get the word out and buy tickets. Last week: 26 tickets. Ticket sales will end on Friday evening. We hope to get 110 attendees.
- c. **Golf Fundraiser – Liza Murphy & Annette Tacconelli** 3 mins
October 3, 2015. Minimum contract requires 40 golfers. With 60 golfers we might make about \$3,000. Dyker Heights Golf Course has a good reputation. It is an 18-hole course. If we back out we lose the \$500 deposit. Question: Will the PTA Fund the teachers? The organizers will send more information and we will vote about whether we want to cancel or not.
- d. **Picture Day & Senior Photos - Annette Tacconelli** 3 mins
October 2, 2015. Pictures are taken in the small gym.
- e. **Merchandise Sale - Elizabeth Beer** 0 mins
This was not discussed.
- f. **PTA Meeting / Parent Workshop Committee - Patricia Janvier** 5 mins
- PTA General Meeting Themes:
 - September: Parent Workshop: Project based learning and Inquiry Driven Instruction. Principal Pete Karp
 - October: Parent Workshop: Josh Torpey – Senior Internships for ICE Students & Jennifer Wells – College Application Process
 - November: Parent Workshop: Paying for College
 - December: No PTA Meeting scheduled
 - January: Parent Workshop:
 - February: Parent Workshop:

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- o March: Parent Workshop: Dr. Steven Cohen, Stress Relief
- o April: Parent Workshop: Social Justice Awareness
- o May: Parent Workshop: Relationship Building – Gender Identity
- o June: Parent Workshop: Panel Section with PTA

- g. Construct/Beautify ICE – Annette Tacconelli 3 mins

This summer we worked on fixing up ICE. Room 518 will be a Black Box Theater. A new sports closet was created. Science Storage room closet was cleaned by PTA Volunteers. A whole van full of electronics was recycled. Shelving units were added. Sixth graders participated in a cleaning day. Every single desk in the school was cleaned. Many teacher's classrooms benefitted from these efforts. Lots of high school females, also, volunteered.

- h. 6th Grade Picnic & Travel arrangements – Dionne Darbouze 2 mins

About 50 folks attended and it went well. They played an ice-breaker game. Boys played baseball, girls played tag. Parents discussed train schedules. The location was hard to find. It was recommended that we apply for a permit in April 2016 for the September 2016 6th Grade Picnic. It was recommended that it be held after school starts since lots of folks leave town for the last 2 weeks of August.

D. Advisory Parents Q & A

- a. Grade Rep's Role 10 mins

2015-2016 Goal: Create a real sense of community. Get the Board, Grade Rep's. and Advisory Parents working together. Organize grade level events.

October 7th – Curriculum Night

Make sure Advisory Parents get the information they need. Grade rep coordinate moving up ceremony. You will get a list of the parents in your class and their email addresses.

- b. Advisory Parents Role 10 mins

There is a form letter for the Advisory Parents to send to the teachers. On curriculum night Advisory Parents should introduce themselves to the teacher and meet the parents and update the email list. The email list should be completed by end of September. Annual Picnics have been found to be helpful for parents to meet other parents.

- c. Q & A

Q: What is the difference between Grade Rep and Advisory Parent?

A: There are 3 advisory groups per grade. And Grade Rep Represents the Grade (all 3 advisory groups).

Q: Stepping-Up Events & 12th Grade Graduation Events – What is involved?

A: Information will come out in November, December or January.

E. Announcements

3 mins

- a. PTA Event Schedule 2015-2016
- b. PTA Meeting
- c. Next PTA Executive Board Meeting - October 5, 2015.
- d. October 7, 2015 @ 5:45 PM. – Curriculum Night and afterwards Grade Level Social

F. Adjournment

Next Week PTA: 5:30

6:00 PM

Greeting for 6th Grade Parents and Transfer Families

General PTA Meeting – Auditorium – PTA Workshop

PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS / PTA MEETINGS & PARENT WORKSHOPS
Co-Recording Secretary Schedule

- ☐ **Wed, September 9, 2015 6:00pm PTA Exec Board Meeting, Rm 518 ----**
Recording Secretary: Susan Beschta <Susan.M.Beschta@ice.dhs.gov>

- ☐ **Wed, September 16, 2015 5:30 - 5:50pm 6th Grade & Transfer Parents, Auditorium**
★ Welcome New ICE Families (6th Grade & Transfer)

- ☐ **Wed, September 16, 2015 6:00pm PTA Meeting & Parent Workshop, Auditorium**
★ PTA Meeting
★ **Parent Workshop:** Project-based Learning and Inquiry Driven Instruction
background in the philosophy of ICE's instructional approach and discuss our faith in it,
focus on what we do, why we do it, and how it works.
Pete Karp
Recording Secretary: Susan Beschta <Susan.M.Beschta@ice.dhs.gov>

- ☐ **Mon, October 5, 2015 6:00pm PTA Exec Board Meeting, Rm 518**
Recording Secretary: Sharon Guskin <smguskin@gmail.com>

- ☐ **Wed, October 14, 2014 6:00pm – PTA Meeting & Parent Workshop, Auditorium**
★ PTA Meeting
★ **Parent Workshop:**
 - **Josh Torpey** - Senior Internships for ICE Students
 - **Jennifer Wells** - College Process: SAT – the new format, SAT vs ACT, Fairs,
Applications, Scholarships and Q& A**Recording Secretary:** Susan Beschta <Susan.M.Beschta@ice.dhs.gov>

- ☐ **Wed, November 4, 2015 6:00pm PTA Exec Board Meeting, Rm 518**
Recording Secretary: Sharon Guskin <smguskin@gmail.com>

- ☐ **Mon, November 9, 2015 6:00pm – PTA Meeting & Parent Workshop, Auditorium**
★ PTA Meeting
★ **Parent Workshop:**
Recording Secretary: Susan Beschta <Susan.M.Beschta@ice.dhs.gov>

- ☐ **Wed, December 2, 2015 6:00pm PTA Exec Board Meeting, Rm 518**
Recording Secretary: Sharon Guskin <smguskin@gmail.com>

- ☐ **Wed, January 6, 2015 6:00pm PTA Exec Board Meeting, Rm 518**
Recording Secretary: Sharon Guskin <smguskin@gmail.com>


- ☐ **Wed, January 13, 2015 6:00pm – PTA Meeting & Parent Workshop**
★ PTA Meeting
★ **Parent Workshop:**
Recording Secretary: Susan Beschta <Susan.M.Beschta@ice.dhs.gov>

- ☐ **Wed, February 3, 2015 6:00pm PTA Exec Board Meeting, Rm 518**
Recording Secretary: Susan Beschta <Susan.M.Beschta@ice.dhs.gov>
- ☐ **Wed, February 10, 2015 6:00pm – PTA Meeting & Parent Workshop**
 - ★ PTA Meeting
 - ★ Parent Workshop: Testing DiscussionRecording Secretary: Susan Beschta <Susan.M.Beschta@ice.dhs.gov>
- ☐ **Wed, March 2, 2015 6:00pm PTA Exec Board Meeting, Rm 518**
Recording Secretary: Susan Beschta <Susan.M.Beschta@ice.dhs.gov>
- ☐ **Wed, March 9, 2015 6:00pm – PTA Meeting & Parent Workshop**
 - ★ PTA Meeting
 - ★ Parent Workshop:Recording Secretary: Susan Beschta <Susan.M.Beschta@ice.dhs.gov>
- ☐ **Wed, April 6, 2015 6:00pm PTA Exec Board Meeting, Rm 518**
Recording Secretary:
- ☐ **Wed, April 13, 2015 6:00pm – PTA Meeting & Parent Workshop**
 - ★ PTA Meeting
 - ★ Parent Workshop:Recording Secretary:
- ☐ **Wed, May 4, 2015 6:00pm PTA Exec Board Meeting, Rm 518**
Recording Secretary:
- ☐ **Wed, May 11, 2015 6:00pm – PTA Meeting & Parent Workshop**
 - ★ PTA Meeting - Exec Board Nominations
 - ★ Parent Workshop:Recording Secretary:
- ☐ **Wed, June 1, 2015 6:00pm PTA Exec Board Meeting, Rm 518**
Recording Secretary:
- ☐ **Wed, June 8, 2015 6:00pm – PTA Meeting & Parent Workshop**
 - ★ PTA Meeting - Exec Board Election
 - ★ PTA Planning session for 2016-2017Recording Secretary:

**PTA EXEC BOARD MEETING
ATTENDANCE SHEET**

Date: 9 Sep 2015

NAME	EMAIL	STUDENT'S NAME / ADVISORY
Susan Beschta	Susan.Beschta@DHS.gov	Layla Beschta - 8th Grade
Annette		
Kirsti Craig	kirsti-craig@gmail.com	Wyatt C-M - 8th grade
Imebet Blair-Carter	iblaircarter@ptonline.net	Saschael(11) + Tafari (9)
Meibell Contreras	meibell@meibell.com	Maya Delmont (7th)
Caryn Davis	carynterri@msn.com	Lili Davis-Roth 701
Andrea Santamaria	andreasntmr@gmail.com	Dave Razzetto
Brenda Hill	bhill@mcc.com	Lena 7th / Nemo 10th
Julia PARKER Vergara	JVergara@aol.com	RAWAN 3th FRANCESCA 11th
Dawn Marx	dawnemarx@gmail.com	Isaac/Isabel 12/11
Lisa Bleyer		
Brianne Chiche		
Becky Walzer	beckywalzer@gmail.com	Stefan Walzer-Goldfeld 901 Jules " 902
Cari Fershing	cfersh@aol.com	Anna Levy - 902
Robin Goldstein	robingg@me.com	Isaac G.F. - 603



Date: 9 Sep 2015

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Exec Board Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2015

Rm 518

A. Welcome 3 mins

- Attendance: Sharon Guskin, Dawne Marx, Emmanuelle Chiche, Brenda Hill, Kirsti Craig, Andrea Santamaria, Monique McClure, Imebet Blair-Carter, Dionne Darbouze, Annette Tacconelli, Kemala Karmen
- Imebet called the meeting to order.
- Minutes from 10/5/2015 meeting were approved, pending revision

B. Discussion re: revision of minutes and fundraising ethics

A discussion regarding our philosophical approach to fundraising and messaging: making sure that we target appropriately and with awareness, and also reflect this discussion in minutes.

Annette suggested an end of year executive board meeting to discuss philosophical and ethical messaging and planning.

C. Committee Reports

1. Family Contribution - Liza Murphy

We are in the process of trying to organize grade by grade the percentage and amount of people that are donating to family contributions so that we know which grades and parents we need to target. How do we get new families to donate? Have parents of 6th graders with ICE siblings added an addition?

We understand that 50% or so of families won't be able to give. We need to know our families and reach out personally the way Annette did in sixth and seventh grades.

2. Community Building

Who is handling communication and how is it going out?

Advisory parents need to be more efficient at giving information and connecting to families, personalizing their messages.

34 - 40% of parents open the newsletter that goes out.

Some extra advisory parents might need to come in during midyear to make sure that all are effective.

3. Fundraisers:

Flash fundraiser raised \$1,800 and there was a challenge; the advisory parents who got more parents to buy tickets won a free ticket to wine tasting. 602 and 903 won!

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November 4, 2015

Rm 518

Wine tasting

Jane and Elliot are 6th and 9th grade parents -- they donated and chaired and ran the wine tasting last year. Elliot's dad owns a gallery and donated the space; this year they are doing the same. They are providing the wine, the spirits, and a beer table focusing on large format beers.

Jane is donating a gift basket, her father in law doing a poster, and we have two gift certificates for foursome golf that we are going to use for the raffle.

Jane is doing a cheese board but needs a bit more food. 6th grade new families -- would they be willing to take on food, reach out for donations, etc? Organize it and get people to donate? Whole Foods may donate if you give them lead time of 6 weeks or so.

Construction/Beautify ICE - Annette

Many projects & annual works have been completed:

Room #518: Black Box Theater: new wall constructed, theatrical entrance made so now Natalie may initiate a puppetry unit of study, theater quality lights with gels installed, custodians painted all our theater walls black. New 6th Grade parent, Michael Keane has been a huge help on completion of this major improvement project.

JD's & 11th Grade Cockroach cabinet: all secured with new locks and air holes drilled for health of specimens.

Senior & retake Photo Day- Annette

All volunteers are scheduled for our Caps & Gowns/retakes Photo Day. Many last minute volunteers rounded out the day beautifully. Retakes need to sign up on line at www.strompingground.com

Announcements:

Pete requested a PTA meeting on sex and health education. He wants parent input. Send him a good email in order to be productive at this meeting.

The PTA directory went out. We are doing a second distribution in January for edits.

Teacher staff gift: in two weeks we'll send out instructions to proceed with teacher, staff, and custodian gifts.

Holiday celebration: no date yet --we'll hand out the gifts at the holiday celebration. Grade reps will do the teacher gifts and holiday celebration.

We won't have an Exec Board meeting in December.

Officially 24 people are on the executive board but only 10 show up for meetings. We need to do better and get more people involved.

The next meeting is January 6th.

Attendance: Lisa Bleyer, Imebet Blair-Carter, Nancy Lasher, Julia Thain Parker, Judi Ventress, Dawne Marx, Meibell Contreras, Cynthia Copeland, John Breen, Kemala Karmen, Katie Calhoun, Patricia Janvier, Emmanuelle Chiche

1. Review of Minutes from November 2015

Motion to approve minutes passed.

2. Treasurers Report

There is approximately \$66,900 through Paypal for Family Contributions. No firm number on cheque payments.

Liza and Imebet are preparing letters to send out to grades, appealing to families to make a contribution if they have not done so yet this year.

Next month we will have a more accurate accounting of where things stand with family contributions.

Here are some current numbers from other fundraisers

Flash Fundraiser	\$1,800
School Photos/Senior Photos	\$2,400
Wine Tasting	\$3,800
Mini Raffle Dec 17 th	\$350.00
Subway Moon Concert	\$2,400 went directly to music dept

The 60k earmarked for I.C.E.'s budget was sent off to DOE in December.

3. New Business

ICE Run/Walk Fundraiser – maybe in May or June?

John Breen has volunteered to organize, with a team of 3 or 4 others.

Suggests setting up online registration through ICE website.

Also suggests trying to get sponsors.

Discuss location, dates, price and student volunteers. Some ideas to “sponsor a kid”, Family Rate.

Get food and drinks donated.

4. Announcements

- a. Teacher/staff gift approx. \$5,800 total does not include 10th grade
- b. Holiday Celebration – as usual this was lots of fun with culturally diverse foods
- c. Another fundraiser coming up:
 - i. Sidewalk Café Concert – Saturday Jan 23rd - Will benefit the Nepal trip.
 - ii. Dance Party is off the table for this year.
- d. Next Wednesday PTA meeting is a screening of film Beyond Measure. Open to the public, Kemala is trying to find a speaker to moderate a post film conversation.

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Attendance: Imebet Blair-Carter, Annette Tacconelli, Elizabeth Beer, Karen Wray, Julia Parker, Erik Addington, Dawne Marx, Liza Murphy, Lisa Bleyer, John Breen, Olivia Rosenbaum, Lisa Burdge, Cari Fershing, Patricia Janvier, Monique McClure, Becky Walzer, Andrea Santamaria, Kristi Craig, Susan M. Beschta, Sharon Ullman

A. Welcome

- a. Motion to approve January's minutes passed.

B. Treasurer's Report

INCOME:

Budget update –Kirsti & Andrea
Family Contributions: \$89,800
Wine Tasting: \$7,452
Picture Day: \$2,456
Merchandise Sale: \$1,715

Imebet and Liza conducted a letter writing campaign seeking extra family contributions and there was an immediate bump up in family contributions. A follow-up letter will be sent out to those families who have given nothing.

Wine Tasting profit went down from last year. There was some discussion about whether that was because PTA did not send out a Thank You letter in advance as a reminder.

EXPENSES:

Hydroponic Garden: \$13,300 payment has just been made and work is starting shortly

C. Committee Reports

- a. Fundraisers

ICE Run/Walk Fundraiser – John Breen, Nancy Lasher

Our goal of having this fundraiser in late May in Prospect Park is not possible. The park is totally booked. There was some discussion about alternative locations and it was concluded Randall's Island is the best choice. Lots of permits are needed for this kind of event. It is anticipated we will hold this event on 09/17/16 at 9:00 am. Runners like to run early in the day. If anyone knows someone who works for the Parks Department email John.

Sidewalk Café Concert– Had to be postponed. Once Roy Nathanson gets back we will pick a new date. The purpose is to benefit Nepal trip.

Spring Fling – Theme: Black & White. Feedback from last year's event was folks wanted more food. Planning committee is looking into having it catered. Families will still bring desserts.

Music:

7 – 8 - Classical Quartet
8 – 9 - Pete's Band
9 – 10 - DJ's
10 – 11 - Possible late night jam session for parents.

Admission: There was discussion about raising the admission price. There is a tension between community building (inclusiveness) v. fund raiser (if the fee is too high some folks might not come). While fee waivers are available it was noted that it might be embarrassing for parents to request the waiver. It was suggested that volunteers get free admission, or reduced price tickets. The committee will discuss this more. Right now it looks like \$35 early bird price, \$50 at the door.

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There will be a live auction.

It was recommended that we invite families of alumni.

The event will be advertised on Face Book and Instagram.

b. PTA Meetings /Parent Workshops

• Feedback:

○ **January 13th Screen of Beyond Measure** – Kemala Karmen

Organizing this event with very little turnaround time and a surprise loss of venue, was a challenge, to put it mildly. But ultimately, and wonderfully, our community pulled together and we had a successful screening. We estimate that over 100 people showed up, from ICE and beyond. Surprisingly, given the hour, many of you stayed for Q&A too. Seeing the approach of schools around the country made me excited about, and I hope made Pete and others excited about, how we can always be doing more to improve our school and the experience of the children who attend it.

One component of the screening was a bake sale. We had a 6th grade parent step up to coordinate it and she was wonderful. We made about \$300 and probably could have made more (we purchased a fair amount that could have been donated with more lead time). All bags of popcorn went, so good to know that's a seller!

• **Wed, February 10th** – Patricia Janvier

- A child psychologist will help folks discuss how to reveal confidential communications from our children about the well-being of fellow students, without betraying our children's trust

• **Wed, Mach 16th** – Kemala Karmen

This meeting was assigned to the ICE PAC. We thought we'd mix things up a bit this year and instead of having a straight-up State testing and opt out meeting, take a deeper look at how assessment happens here at ICE.

The exact structure of the meeting is still in formation, but the idea is to have teachers there who can speak directly to how assessment looks in each grade.

We're hoping that as middle school parents make their decisions about whether to opt in or out of the state tests, they will reflect on which system actually allows teachers--and students themselves--to see evidence of learning. As with Beyond Measure, we hope that families make the connection that the type of learning and assessment that takes place at our school is NOT COMPATIBLE with the top-down, one-size-fits all curricular and assessment approaches favored by the state.

Arranging the meeting this way has the added benefit that it is also relevant to HS parents. At this time when our children might be more reluctant to share what is going on in schools, teachers can speak to how they are assessing our children's progress, and how that fits into the continuum from MS to college.

As ever, our committee needs actual people. Please shoot an email to Kemala if you are willing to help out with the many tasks ICE PAC has in front of it--the PTA meeting is just part of it. Among other things, we are thinking of having a separate meeting just for 6th grade families or other middle school families new

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to ICE to explain our position on test refusal and we also need to update the document about how HSs look on students who apply without scores.

Parting thought: please look out for the email, coming soon, letting you know how you can take action to get Betty Rosa selected next Chancellor of the Board of Regents. Meryl Tisch was on the Board for 20 years and Chancellor since 2009, so these opportunities for new leadership don't come often!!!

D. Announcements

- a. 2nd half of the School Year has begun
- b. Class Parents -- Please make sure parent body is aware of new ICE Website.
- c. 2/10/16 --15 students are going to Nepal
- d. 2/15/16 – 2/19/16 -- Midwinter Recess - No school
- e. 2/27/16 --15 students are going to Mexico
- f. 3/9/16, 5-8 pm -- Parent Teacher Conferences
- g. 3/11/16, 1:30 – 4:30pm -- Parent Teacher Conferences

E. Adjournment