

# TAOTS PTO

## General Meeting Minutes

### Thursday, November 17, 2016

### Library – 6:30 p.m.

---

---

- I. Call to order 6:31 p.m. by Co-President Leslie Tulumello
- II. Prior Meeting Minutes: October 20, 2016 meeting minutes were ready by Leslie Tulumello and were approved with 18 in favor, 0 abstention and 0 not in favor
- III. **President’ s Report:** (Leslie Tulumello)
  - Thanked everyone that volunteered for Fall Events, without the generous outpouring of parent support we have had, we could not have made these events as successful
  - Reminder to connect with the PTO on our website to join future events, support is still needed
  - Chancellor Carmen Farina meeting on October 25, 2016 was attended by several parents; Chancellor Farina answered guided questions, and discussed upcoming events for the year
- IV. **Treasurer’ s Report:** presented by Irina Furmanskaya, Treasurer
  - Presentation of cumulative budget (July 1 – October 31<sup>st</sup> 2016)
    - i. No fundraisers in October to document; minimal expenses toward Halloween Pumpkin Patch and Picture Day were incurred and reported
    - ii. November Bake Sale and Thanksgiving Pie Sale will be reported in November budget
    - iii. Current fund balance is \$39,696.00
  - Financials were approved with 18 in favor, 0 abstention and 0 not in favor
- V. **Principal’ s Report:** presented by Melissa Appelbaum, Parent Coordinator
  - Melissa reported that a letter announcing the adoption of the TRIBES model across District 20 will be coming home; letter will also be attached to the weekly e-mail reminder next week
- VI. **Fundraising Update:** Presented by Leslie Tulumello, Co-President
  - Highlights from Fall Events:
    - i. Election Day Bake Sale yielded over \$1,500 income, more than double previous years’ bake sales

- ii. Yankee Candle is close to \$7,000 goal, and will continue online through 12/31. Funds will be used for Field Trip Sponsorship. All items sold give us a 40% return on sales.
  - iii. Thanksgiving Pie Sale is at 160 pies; goal is to get to 200
- New Fundraisers: Barclay' s and Smencils
  - i. Barclay' s is offering discounted group tickets to a Nets/Indiana Pacers basketball game and tour of Barclay' s Center on Friday, February 3, 2016; Tour will commence ~6:00p.m., followed by the game starting at 7:30p.m.
    - Tickets will be offered for \$30 each (face value \$40); prices are the same for adults and children
    - Tickets are for upper section, but will be together
    - All orders will need to be placed by January 3<sup>rd</sup>
    - Fundraising will go to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation
    - More details will be provided; 18 parents voted in favor; 0 abstention; 0 not in favor
    - Some parents noted that a 7:30p.m. game start is challenging for smaller children; PTO shared that this was the only available date other than Super Bowl Sunday
  - ii. Smencils are scented pencils that appeared in Halloween Pumpkin Patch gift bags, and sold at Parent/Teacher Night and the Election Day Bake Sale
    - Pencils are being sold for \$1.00 each, with a .50cent profit
    - Details of future sales are being determined; however, parents voted in favor of sales with 18 in favor, 0 abstention and 0 not in favor
  - ii. Question was asked about where used books were sourced, as they were sold at Election Day Bake sale
    - Used books sold at Bake Sale were remainder from annual Spring Used Book Sale
    - PTO is looking for other opportunities throughout the year to include Used Book Sale
- New Proposal: T-shirt Contest
  - i. PTO will be initiating a school-wide T-shirt design contest
  - ii. "Winning Design" will be featured on a new T-shirt for sale
  - iii. More details forthcoming
  - iv. 18 votes in favor; 0 abstention; 0 not in favor
- Thanksgiving Pie Raffle

- i. Our big winners were:
  1. Elena Walsh
  2. Evelyn Yu

**VII. Upcoming Events: Gala**

- Theme Next Steps
  - i. Save the Date will be coming soon; date to be confirmed (March)
  - ii. Theme has historically been focused on a book (Giving Tree, Wizard of Oz, Secret Garden, etc.); however, does not need to be based on a book; PTO is seeking thoughts/ideas around the 2017 gala
- Graphic Design
  - i. Reminder to those that have design skills, or have connections in design and printing industries, that we would appreciate their help
- Class Donations
  - i. Melissa Appelbaum shared that class parents will be attending a meeting in January to pick class basket themes, identify teacher treats, and class projects
    1. Due to financial constraints, there may be 1 class basket per grade; baskets will be due one month prior to gala
- Donations/Raffles
  - i. List will be formalized to reach out to previous donors
  - ii. Parents asked to think about ideas for sourcing new donations/raffles
  - iii. Parents that signed up to volunteer for the gala will be followed-up with shortly to start initiating work streams
- Teacher Sponsorship
  - i. All teachers that want to attend the Gala will be paid for by PTO; however they will need to pay for any guests they bring
- Event Location
  - i. Historically event has been at Rex Manor, however PTO is considering alternative locations
  - ii. Discussion around possibility of having gala at Dyker Golf Course, as other District 20 schools have had their galas there, and considering a night-time event (however, price per person may be higher than ~\$50 per ticket); Leslie Tulumello following-up

**VIII. Lice Free Noggins**

- Presentation on preventing spread of lice, use of marketed products, and DOE rules around lice outbreaks
- Lice Free Noggins is a mobile in-home Brooklyn lice service that can help confirm and get rid of nits/lice
  - i. Information can be found on PTO Website and [www.licefreenoggins.com](http://www.licefreenoggins.com)