

MINNESAUKE PTA MINUTES  
GENERAL MEETING

May 10, 2022, 7:30pm, Minnesauke Cafeteria and Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85978679433...> Meeting ID: 859 7867 9433 Passcode: 320275

- Call to Order at 7:36pm by Danielle Butler, turning over to Michelle Capobianco
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Principal's Report (Mrs. Pickford)
  - Multicultural Week – Starting each day with multicultural music; thank you to families that submitted music. Read book “All Are Welcome”. Tomorrow children will be dressing in clothing representing their cultures. Multicultural Night on Thursday, with tours of building to see cut out figures students decorated at home, each hallway decorated representing different continents. Diversity of dance assembly on Friday. DEI ambassadors have been visiting classes and engaging students in discussions about the book “The Day You Begin” by Jacqueline Woodson. Thank you to Mrs. Buffa.
  - Kindergarten Screening on 5/17 and 5/18.
  - Spring Concert for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades on 5/18. Will also have Cherished Guests performance.
  - Third universal screening week of 6/1.
  - Memorial Day weekend will be a five-day weekend.
  - Field Day coming up on 6/7 and 6/15.
  - Fourth grade NYS science exams coming up.
  - Flag Day is on 6/14.
  - Sixth Grade Moving Up is on 6/16.
  - Kindergarten End of the Year show is on 6/17.
  - No school on 6/20 for Juneteenth.
  - Last day of school is 6/24.
  - Thank you to the PTA for staff appreciation, it was incredible. Thank you for the Soirée (all funds go back to students).
- Board of Education Report – Cheryl Pedisich and Jeffrey Carlson Budget Presentation (see slides  
[http://www.threevillagecsd.org/Assets/2022-2023\\_School\\_Budget/2022-2023\\_Budget\\_Presentation2.pdf](http://www.threevillagecsd.org/Assets/2022-2023_School_Budget/2022-2023_Budget_Presentation2.pdf))
  - The maximum increase for 2022-2023 is 2%. The proposed budget has a tax levy increase of 1.82%.
  - Three Village is getting more state aid than originally anticipated - about 4% (\$1.86 million).
  - Did not need to cut any services, staff, etc. to comply with tax cap, it all has to do with enrollment.
  - Our enrollment is actually going up in elementary level, projecting need for at least 1 additional position district wide for next year. Class sizes are at a good level. BOE has worked hard to do that. Budget Advisory Committee has advocated to keep class sizes optimal. Adding ENL social worker as district has almost doubled ENL population in last several years, including new students who have had very little education in their previous countries, so need to have specified person who speaks fluent Spanish.
  - Secondary decline in enrollment. Changes will in no way impact student services; will still have full complement of services. Junior High level is restoring labs and that is in response to feedback from students and staff.
  - Other Staffing Reductions – We had a resignation from technology department and have not replaced that position, but distributed responsibilities among existing staff and have made title changes. Abolished Director of Elementary Curriculum position held by Dr.

Deana Rinaldi, but she will be going to Setauket to serve as Principal. Mrs. Pedisich to retire at the end of June. Dr. Biscari to be Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services. The Executive Director of Student and Community Services, Erin Connolly, will be responsible for SACC. Sarah Kiersh will be going to Mount and will also be responsible for the Pre-K curriculum. The Director of Social Studies is a stipend and there are some redundancies because the position is at Ward Melville and there are also lead teachers. Nurses is a little more controversial. Prior to Covid we had float nurses through the district (they helped with lunches and rode on buses to field trips and rode with students with medical issues). During Covid, float nurses were moved to buildings because no trips, so each school had two and WM had three. Now WM will go back to two, Arrowhead will have two, there will be 1.5 at Academy. Before Covid had more students that required 1:1 nursing (now only have 1), if another student needs that service then will accommodate. Recent uptick in Covid is being monitored and if we need more nurses then will add as necessary.

- o Vote is 5/17 at Ward Melville in the gymnasium from 6am-9pm.
- o Budget tax levy increase is 1.82% so only requires simple majority to pass since under 2%. If it doesn't pass then revote, present revised budget for revote, or go straight to contingency. If contingency then would have to cut about \$2.95 million. Would have to meet with BOE to determine what would be cut.
- o Feel free to call or e-mail if any questions.
- Council Report (Monica Balsan) – None
- Membership Report (Traci Gross) – 234 members. Taking applications for next year's memberships starting 6/1. Can join online at memberhub.
- Correspondence (Leslie Dahl)
  - o From Mrs. Pickford: Thank you for Soirée
  - o From Mrs. Pickford: Thank you for staff appreciation
- Treasurer's Report (Michelle Capobianco for Christy Barry) – Current Balance \$37,569.30, waiting on final expense numbers from Soirée, but very good numbers. Successful plant sale; thank you Christina Hass.

#### OLD BUSINESS - Danielle Butler

- Recent Events
  - o Dine & Donate (Thursday 4/14) – The Whisky Barrel (Port Jefferson). Raised \$165 and will try to institute series of Dine & Donates for next year.
  - o Staff Appreciation Week (5/2-5/6) – Kristen Girona and Christine DeGeronimo – A++ gold star!
  - o Spring Raffle Basket Soirée at the Old Field Club (5/5) – Funds Arts & Ed Program and supports character education program.
  - o Plant Sale (5/6) - Christina Haas – Fantastic job, so organized, A++ gold star!

#### NEW BUSINESS – Michelle Capobianco

- Multicultural Week and Evening Festival (5/9-5/13, 5/12) – Stephanie Buffa – festival on the 12<sup>th</sup> in the evening.
- Family Connect Night (5/19) – next Thursday.
- Spring Fling Outdoor Dance Party (5/20 6-8pm) - Sophie Jones and Samantha Lodato – Looking for people to help with set up and break down and snack table. Will be positing online looking for volunteers. Have had some good registration on CheddarUp. Tickets will be \$3/child in advance, \$5 at the door. Each child needs to be accompanied by a parent, not a drop off event. Sixth graders can volunteer. Trying to keep on the blacktop, not the playground. No siblings not in Minnesauke because of wanting to be able to give out glow things and have enough to go around.

- Family Picnic and Movie Night (6/3) – Cristen Fitzgerald and Elizabeth Simon – All families will be invited. Will be here at Minnesauke. Movie TBD. Eat Me Drink Me truck and Mr. Softee. Families bring own takeout and a blanket/chairs for movie. Will set up inflatable movie screen.
- Field Day (6/7 for K-5 & 6/15 for 6th).
- Concerts - Spring Concert (Wednesday, 5/18 at 7pm for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades); Beginners Concert (Tuesday, 6/6 at 7pm for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades); Ice cream socials at end of concerts.
- Color Run (TBD) – Jess Ciardullo and Kelly Javidi – Moved to September because was supposed to be weekend of Father’s Day and Juneteenth, so better to have kickoff event in September.
- Elections – Nominating Committee Chaired by Cristen Fitzgerald, slate presented by Sarah Pew:
  - 2022-2023 Slate:
    - President (Year 2 of 2): Michelle Capobianco
    - Vice President (Year 1 of 2): OPEN
      - Interested Candidates: Kelly Javidi
    - Vice President, Membership (Year 1): OPEN
      - Interested Candidates: Samantha Lodato
    - Vice President, Finance: (Year 1): OPEN
      - Interested Candidates: Nina Baker
    - Vice President, Technology: OPEN
      - Interested Candidates: Sophie Jones
    - Treasurer (Year 2 of 2): Christy Geraci
    - Recording Secretary (Year 2 of 2): Elizabeth Simon
    - Corresponding Secretary (Year 2 of 2): Leslie Dahl
    - Council Delegate/Historian (Open):
      - Interested Candidates: Danielle Butler
  - Motion to Accept: Samantha Lodato (1<sup>st</sup>); Michelle Capobianco (2<sup>nd</sup>); No one opposed. Congratulations to new slate. End of year PTA Thank You event will be rescheduled.

Questions:

- Which concerts will also have Cherished Guest Concert? 3<sup>rd</sup> grade concert for own grade level during school with parents; 4<sup>th</sup> grade concert in evening; Cherished Guests for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> only.
- When is 6<sup>th</sup> grade end of year celebration? Friday 6/10 at 7pm. Calling it a “celebration” and not a formal “dance”. Will have indoor and outdoor activities. Drop off event.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*Motion to accept April Minutes: Mrs. Kiersh (1<sup>st</sup>); Sarah Pew (2<sup>nd</sup>); all in favor. Motion passed.

Michelle thanks Danielle and Soirée committee.

\*Motion to Adjourn: Tracie (1<sup>st</sup>); Sophie Jones (2<sup>nd</sup>); all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18pm