

DRAFT

**PS 101Q Parent Association Inc.
General Membership Meeting
Oct. 18, 2016
7 p.m.**

Board members present: Sarah Payne, Maria Mastromarino, Lisa Suzuki, Adina Konheim, J.J. Rowe, Marybeth Christiansen, Fadia Mohama and Hillary Ortiz. Twenty-two parents attended the meeting.

Welcome and Thank You: Co-President Sarah Payne said that the PA alternates meeting times each month between the morning and evening in order to accommodate everyone.

The PA is required by the Chancellor's Regulations, one of the documents that governs how the PA operates, to take a poll at the beginning of the school year to see what time parents would prefer to meet. This year 105 people voted and 7 p.m. won, so evening meetings will be at 7 p.m. going forward.

Payne said a number of people asked when they responded to the poll if the PA could alternate the days of the week that it meets. That is not possible because the Chancellor's Regulations require the PA to state in its Bylaws a specific day of the week and time that it will meet every month.

While the Executive Board did discuss changing the Bylaws to move the day of the week of the general PA meetings to a different night, it was determined that Tuesday was the day most Executive Board members were available and it was decided to keep meeting on Tuesdays.

Payne said a parent raised the idea of moving the morning meeting time to 7 a.m. so parents could attend before school starts. The school offers free breakfast to all students at that time, so parents could drop off their kids and attend the meeting. Most parents at the meeting said 7 a.m. was too early.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: A motion was made to accept the minutes from the September meeting. Minutes approved.

Bylaw Proposal: A proposal was presented to change the PA bylaws to state the Executive Board will meet at 8:15 a.m. the Monday before the regularly scheduled PA meeting. The change is needed because it is a better time for the current members to meet. The change will be voted on next meeting.

Current By-Law	Proposed By-Law
<p>Article V - Executive Board, Section 2. Meetings. Regularly scheduled meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at 8:30a.m. the Tuesday before the regularly scheduled P.A. meeting. If a regularly scheduled meeting falls on a legal or religious holiday, the meeting may be held on the following or previous week. Executive Board meetings will be announced to the general population 10 days prior to the scheduled meeting.</p>	<p>Article V - Executive Board, Section 2. Meetings. Regularly scheduled meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at <u>8:15a.m. the Monday</u> before the regularly scheduled P.A. meeting. If a regularly scheduled meeting falls on a legal or religious holiday, the meeting may be held on the following or previous week. Executive Board meetings will be announced to the general population 10 days prior to the scheduled meeting.</p>

Upcoming events:

-- Chipotle Fundraiser: Tuesday, Oct. 25 from 3 p.m.- 8 p.m. Parents who want to participate can purchase a meal at the Chipotle at 70-30 Austin Street and earn money for the school by bringing a flyer being sent home in backpacks, showing the flyer on their smartphones, or telling the cashier they are supporting PS101. Fifty percent of the proceeds will be given to the PA.

-- Monster Mash: Scheduled for Saturday Oct. 29 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are on sale, \$5 per person in advance online and \$10 at the door. Eric Zolov is co-chairing. He explained to parents who are new to the school that this is a community event that has been held annually for quite a while. There will be bouncy castles, games, a witches den, a zombie den and a bake sale. Parents can sign up to volunteer online at pa101.org. He said volunteers can sign up for hour-long slots for jobs including setup, helping the bake sale, manning the ticket booth and clean up. Volunteers get a free ticket. Usually about 500 people come to the event. A lot of the kids wear costumes.

-- Family Square Dance: Scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 19 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The PA held its first square dance last year. This year, the PA is sponsoring a mini square dancing residency before the dance for grades K-6. Each grade will get two classes of square dancing instruction during gym before the event.

Call for Volunteers:

-- Head Check: If you sign up to help with head checks, you don't have to come in every time head checks take place. It just means you'll be asked if you can come in on a day when volunteers are needed. You can also sign up to bring children back and forth from classes during head checks.

-- Direct Giving Campaign: For the last two years the PA has had its direct giving campaign from November to the end of December. Consensus among executive board and other parents is that we should push the campaign to a January/February timeframe. The feeling is that a lot goes on at the school at the end of the year. We raised \$30,000 two years ago and \$35,000 last year. Looking for people who may be interested in helping with the fundraising campaign early next year. It's mostly communications work, coming up with a strategy and theme. It doesn't have to be done by one person, the jobs can be divvied up or shared.

Class Parent Community Service Initiative: Vice President Lisa Suzuki said that this year we are trying something new instead of having food at the Thanksgiving class parties. In the past we've had food-themed Halloween, Thanksgiving and holiday parties. Instead, we want to encourage a culture of community service and giving back to the school. The theme is "Children in Need." We are asking classes to do some kind of community service initiative that goes with that theme. It can be done by class or by grade. We're talking about small items that don't cost a lot. Ideas include some kind of book drive, socks for homeless shelters and first aid supplies for homeless shelters. It is not a schoolwide or PA function, and there is some autonomy among classes about what they want to do. The idea is to talk to the students about community service and giving back as well as making a donation. Suzuki said if anyone had any ideas about charities to team up with, she would love to hear them. Send an e-mail to classparents@pa101.org. We are trying to come up with a pre-approved list of charities that classes can team up with.

After School Program (ASP): Vice President Maria Mastromarino reminded parents that we need 48 hours to process any requests that parents make for changes, drops or additions to the after school program. Sometimes people will sign up online for after school on, for example, a Tuesday and expect their child will be able to attend class on Wednesday. We need 48 hours to ensure the homeroom teacher, the after school instructor and the principal know where all 670 students are going during dismissal. If something happens, such as someone else is going to pick up your child, or you need to sign up for class at the last minute, you should call the office as well as send an e-mail.

Mastromarino also said we already are looking for classes to add to the spring after school program, which starts the first week in February. Registration will probably take place in early January. If anyone has any classes they would like to see offered, please send an e-mail to afterschool@pa101.org.

Residency Updates: Laura Kujo gave an update on the BioBus, a 1970s bus that serves as a research grade mobile science lab and has scientists who teach an on-site science program. The bus was at PS 101 for two days in September, and is scheduled to come on Nov. 7th and now also on Nov. 21st for all the K classes and 6th grade. Parents are invited to volunteer online, even if all the sign-up times are taken, parents should still feel free to come.

Financial Update: Treasurer Adina Konheim said right now we are in the red, but it's not a problem. We get a big infusion of cash when we bill for after school (it's one of our biggest sources of revenue) and we charged parents in October.

Gifts given to PS 101 from the PA include BioBus, air conditioners, new classroom rugs and the Positive Action curriculum.

Meeting adjourned