



AGENDA

MS54 PTA General Meeting

September 21, 2021 @ 7:00 PM, Zoom Mtg

Call to Order & Minutes (7:00 - 7:05)

- Welcome and Call to Order (75 attendees).
- Introductions for all executive board members and other members of the community, including: grant writer (John Decatur), SLT parent co-lead (Andy Weinstein), CEC President (Lucas Liu), parent coordinator (Anne Pejovich), and Assistant Principal (Ms. Lynch). A list of all PTA executive board members is available at <https://www.ms54.org/pta.html>.
 - The next CEC3 meeting will be Wednesday, September 22.
 - The next Wellness meeting will be Wednesday, September 22 @ 8 PM.
 - The next SLT meeting will be at the school, Friday October 8 @ 8 AM, in the teachers lounge.
- Approval June PTA minutes (~15 approved; no disapproves; no abstentions)
- Housekeeping/Admin:
 - Zoom info: Private Chat enabled
 - We will host a post-meeting opportunity to talk and ask questions

Presidents' Report (7:05 - 7:15)

- Welcome, short explanation of PTA meeting tonight
 - This year's theme: Connection. Community. Fundraising.
 - PTA general meetings will be held on the second Tuesday each month.
 - Elections for open positions on PTA board and SLT will be held at the general meeting on October 12 @ 7 PM.
 - The backpack drive, providing school supplies for our students, resulted in 50 backpacks being handed out. Thank you for your support!
 - The School Store has raised more than \$1,300 this summer. We are looking for a Store Manager, please contact copresidents@ms54pta.org if interested.
 - MS54 PTA is on Twitter (@BTW_MS54PTA) and LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ms54pta/>).
 - The Annual Appeal is our largest fundraiser and has received \$1,500 so far. Our goal is \$200,000, thank you for your donations.
 - SHSAT updates: We are still waiting for official updates from the DOE. Traditionally, test registration is in October, and the test is administered in December, but things could be different this year. Join the PTA Facebook Group for updates. Parents of 8th graders will be hearing from Ms. Mansell, who will be hosting a Zoom session on October 4th.
- SLT Update (Andy Weinstein, SLT Parent Chair)
 - One seat on the School Leadership Team is f open for MS54 parent, election will be held on October 12th.



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- The first SLT meeting is Oct. 8, 7:20am: in person, cafeteria, hybrid option
- Meetings: 2nd Friday of each month; will alternate between in-person + Zoom
- Safety Update
 - Everyone gets a PPE starter kit. Hand sanitizer and masks are available at school.
 - Safety drills are being conducted: 8 drills must be performed by December, and another 4 after must be completed by the end of the academic year.
 - Isolation Room for quarantining students feeling ill has been created in Room 133.
 - Bicycles: Students can ride bikes to school and secure them on the bike racks on school property.
 - Scooters are no longer allowed in the building.
- CEC/PC Update (Lucas Liu, CEC3 president)
 - Sign up for newsletter at cec3.org and select “CECD3 newsletter” button
 - CEC meetings will be Zooms through January
- Ryan Health Center - The Ryan Center was unable to join our meeting but welcomes the community and encourages all families to register for health services. Forms will be sent home.
- SHSAT H.S. Panel
 - Guests needed for Oct 12th general meeting
 - Please ask + forward any candidates
 - Preferably 9th + 10th graders
- Feedback: Email Reminder Links
 - Events will be shared with the school community via the PTA email newsletter and will also be posted to the school website on a Google Calendar. Parents are invited to add the PTA Google Calendar to stay informed of upcoming events.
- Events: We have had many engaged and excited new families coming to events, thank you for participating!
 - Kickball + Arts Corner in Central Park - 9/1, turned into Zoom due to storm; great turnout of 60+ people
 - Biking for Bubble Tea - 40+ people showed up this past Sunday, Sept. 12th
 - Informal Coffee + PTA Coffees for Annual Appeal (1st Informal Coffee: Fri. 9/17, 8:45am, 20+ parents attended; lots of great ideas flowed!)
 - Frisbee + Pizza: 8th Grade - 9/25 at 1 pm and if rains, then will schedule for 9/26
 - Tentative: Movie Night + Yankees Game - depending on the field readiness
 - Back-to-School Night - 9/23 at 6:30 pm
 - Backpack Drive + Watch Party - Going well and still waiting for the backpack, but suppliers have all arrived
 - After School to watch Social Dilemma on 9/30



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- National Hispanic Heritage Month - Sept 15th to Oct 15th and Equity team will send more details when available

Principal's Report (7:15 - 7:24) Laura Geraghty Lynch, Assistant Principal

- Back to School Night: Thurs- Parents will receive their virtual schedules and zoom links by email Wed. night.
- The administration is looking through some 7th and 8th grade language and elective requests.
- Cafeteria will begin offering a hot lunch option!
- Parents: Please upload your child's photo to their Jupiter account; this helps our teachers to get to know your child and their name, especially when everyone is wearing masks.
- Parents: It is very important for you (or your child) to fill out the technology survey that was sent out. It tells us what technology access your child has, or needs.
- MAP assessments will be given to all students to evaluate progress in Math and ELA three times over the course of the year. This assessment will be done on your child's device at school.
- Parents: If your child has received a COVID vaccine, then please upload your child's proof of vaccination to the DOE Vaccination Portal at <https://vaccine.schools.nyc/vaccine>.
- The Ryan Health Center, located at MS54, is offering the COVID vaccine.

Treasurer's Report (7:35 - 7:45)

- Budget Update - total income = \$390K; net income = -\$307K
- Grants: No updates this month
- Recent expense approvals:
 - Teacher grants, \$12,000 (60 staff x \$200): APPROVED.
 - Paraprofessional grants, \$550 (11 staff x \$50): APPROVED.
 - Homework help, \$3000: APPROVED
 - Backpack drive, \$3250 (50 backpacks x \$65): APPROVED.
 - STEP dancing program, \$1,500: APPROVED.
 - After School Academy Fellowship, \$25,000: APPROVED
 - For each item, 7 votes to approve, 0 no, 0 abstentions; Quorum is 6.

Community Updates (7:45 - 8:00)

- Fundraising:
 - NY Yankees discount tickets for community building
 - Upcoming events:
 - Turkey Trot
 - Thanksgiving Pie Sale



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- Charleston Wrap
- Dumpling Drive
- Parents Prom fundraising event: 1980s theme wins!
- School Store Report: Swag - revenue \$1330, After School - revenue \$5400, Other and gross; we are looking for a new vendor for the school swag
- Grade Rep Check-In:
 - 8th grade rep - when is the SHSAT, will there be virtual tours and what is the process?
 - 7th Gr. Rep: Needed, parent volunteers
 - 6th Gr. Rep: Needed, parent volunteers 8th grade rep - when is the SHSAT, will there be virtual tours and what is the process?
- Wellness Committee
 - Address the level of anxiety for the parents;
 - The next meeting is September 22 at 8 pm
- Equity Team
 - The Equity Team is working on its meeting schedule for this year.
 - An event may be planned for October 4 for Hispanic Heritage Month.
 - Updates will be shared with the community via the MS54 Newsletter.
 - More information on the Equity Team can be found at <https://www.ms54.org/equity-team.html>
- 108th St Construction - no new items to report

New Business (8:15 - 8:30)

- ***Elections/PTA Openings/Help Wanted!***
 - Elections will be held October 12th @ 7:00 with live streaming and voting. Need to pre-register
 - Board Openings
 - Co-Treasurer
 - Co-Assistant Treasurer (to help with Annual Appeal)
 - Co-Corresponding Secretary
 - Co-Fundraising VP
 - 7th Grade Rep
 - 6th Grade Rep
 - Non-Elected Openings
 - Prom Chair (to replace Auction)
 - School Store Manager
 - Class/Cohort Parents
 - 1 open SLT slot ← *this is elected (LL)*



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- *To nominate yourself or someone else, or to be part of the nominating committee, contact nominations@ms54.org.*