MSC PA meeting

13 Dec 2023

8:00pm

**Call to Order**

* Meeting minutes from Nov approved

**Principal’s Report**

* Big thanks to parent community for their involvement in and support of various MSC schoolwide activities
* 340 middle school applicants, which is a huge and exciting increase from last year
* El Taller Spanish classes are going well and have been well received
* Cosmic IQ inflatable planetarium next week
* Winter Showcase – check email for lineup; there may be additional acts
* Greenhouse
  + Partnership with iDig2Learn has been dissolved, following strong feedback from teachers about ineffective instruction
  + Working to solidify a new plan
    - In conversations with Sun Works
    - In conversations with teachers about labs, science classes, taking on part of the Sun Works curriculum, etc., in Greenhouse
  + Anticipate a January update for parents
* Junior Varsity and Varsity middle school basketball teams, with first games next week! Please come out and support, though flag that there is limited space because the games will take place in the basement gym
  + Marciarie is also working on establishing soccer teams, and can already confirm volleyball for the spring

**Officers’ Reports**

* President’s Report
  + Events
    - Book fair is ongoing through Friday 12/15
    - Purchase popcorn to support 8th grade graduation through Friday 12/15
    - Dec 18 – Winter Concert, with baked goods and pizza for sale
    - Feb 9 – Read-a-Thon kick off
    - Feb 14 – Valentine’s bake sale
    - Feb 29 – Parents’ Night Out
  + Meetings
    - Jan 10, Feb 15 – PA meetings
    - Jan 17 – IDC meeting
    - Jan 22 – Broadway Loves MSC
* Treasurer’s Report
  + Running as expected
  + Working with Family Giving to track donations
  + Financial reports are available on the FOMSC website

**Volunteer Opportunities**

* Vital
  + Greenhouse grant writing and funding opportunities ([green@friendsofmsc.org](mailto:green@friendsofmsc.org))
  + Green Team ([green@friendsofmsc.org](mailto:green@friendsofmsc.org))
  + Open Arms Support ([diana.bartlett@outlook.com](mailto:diana.bartlett@outlook.com))
* Ongoing
  + Cultural events and celebrations, please reach out to your children’s teachers to share traditions with their classes
* Events/Committees
  + Book Fair
  + Winter Showcase
  + Broadway Loves MSC
  + Read-a-Thon team
  + Feb Parents Night
  + Kids Rock Chair
* Search committees and volunteer opportunities through Konstella, and let the PA know if you’re having a hard time locating the sign up for an opportunity you’re interested in

**Open Arms Update (Diana)**

* D3 Open Arms – coalition from DOE of diverse stakeholders who come together on a monthly basis to brainstorm how to support new New Yorkers in the public school system
* MSC has 70 new New Yorker families, which is nearly 20% of the student population
* How to help/support?
  + 60 day letter telling families they will have to leave temporary housing within 60 days; need to get the word out to affected families that they can ask for an exception and an extension 🡪 pending one pager from Open Arms that will contain information about their rights, please help to circulate
  + Clothing drive is ongoing with drop off bin by the nurse’s office (<https://www.konstella.com/app/school/63e42520cf38a30ac746b63c/signups/65677242641caa36aae09084>) and would benefit from volunteers to help gather donated items and carry them upstairs to the ENL teacher on a regular basis
  + Email [diana.bartlett@outlook.com](mailto:diana.bartlett@outlook.com) to support, with any ideas on how to help, etc.

**Family Giving Update (Charlie)**

* Largest MSC fundraiser of the year, supporting over 50% of the FOMSC activities each year
* Currently at 58% of the USD 100,000 goal for this year
* Please find details about how to support here: <https://www.friendsofmsc.org/donate>
  + And check on corporate matching!
* Email [familygiving@friendsofmsc.org](mailto:familygiving@friendsofmsc.org) with questions, to volunteer your time to support, etc.

**Key Reminders**

* Teacher and staff gifts can be made through tomorrow 12/14, via Venmo @FOMSC
  + There will be an opportunity to weigh in on this year’s process, which is different than previous years
* School photos, including make ups, are available for purchase online
* In-person book fair is ongoing through Friday 12/15 and online beyond then
* Popcorn purchases are ongoing through Friday 12/15

**Questions**

* 5th grade end of year celebration/graduation Chair
  + Needs guidance on expectations, description, budget information, etc.
  + Can connect with last year’s parent leads
  + Lots of coordination takes place with administration; Marciarie will provide some guidance

**Adjournment**

* Next meeting on Wed 10 Jan, 8:30am in person (auditorium) and on Zoom
* February meeting will be shifted
* Meeting adjourned at 8:44pm