MSC PA meeting

8 Nov 2023

8:30am

**Call to Order**

* Meeting minutes from Oct approved

**Officers’ Reports**

* Fall Fest success! Thanks to all
* Kids are back in the Greenhouse
  + Parent support for maintenance in the Greenhouse will keep the costs low; tasks include dusting, sweeping, etc.
  + Update from Josh – able to support any training necessary to support maintenance. Looking for 3-4 parents per week to keep things running at lower costs. Plans to quickly have Greenhouse fully operational and active
    - Volunteer opportunity! Looking to re-form a Green Team, details below
  + Greenhouse temperature – there are working heaters, but the walls are glass so kids may need to wear coats during cold months
* Spanish classes begin tomorrow
* If family giving is more successful than our goal, we can extend Greenhouse and Spanish programming
* School tours
  + Middle school tours are going really well. Parents with questions about middle school or MSC in general should email [welcome@friendsofmsc.org](mailto:welcome@friendsofmsc.org)
  + K tours
    - Some tours happening now for families interested in transferring mid-year
    - Tours for 2024-25 year posted for January, with Sign Up Genius ready to go
    - Volunteer opportunity! Looking for new parents to lead tours, details below
* Field trips have started
  + K went to farmers’ market
  + Some grades going to Museum of the City of New York
  + Middle schoolers will go to see the opera at the Met next week
  + These fantastic trips are made possible through the PA budget
* Grant applications – Parents are leading on various grants efforts to support continued enhancements to MSC
  + Volunteer opportunity! Parents with grant writing experience or those who are interested can support. Work can be done from home. ChatGPT can help. Please reach out!
* EBT/SNAP cards have been reloaded, so check your balances. City sets balances based on use, so please use even if you feel your family doesn’t need the benefit. It helps to ensure benefits for families who do need the support
* Family Giving Update from Charlie
  + Coffee and bagels to kick off next Fri 17 Nov
  + Lots of activities from Nov-Jan, so please get involved and support!
* Secretary’s Report
  + If you need help reducing/consolidating your Konstella emails, please email [cosecretary@friendsofmsc.org](mailto:cosecretary@friendsofmsc.org)
    - Can do a group tutorial if sufficient demand
  + Business advertising opportunities for MSC parents to reach out to the community, through either the website or Konstella
  + Newsletter information being communicated through Class Parents on a weekly basis
* Treasurer’s Report
  + Fall Fest net of around USD 5000, which is amazing!
  + Vote to cover lettuce grow towers and operating supplies, approx. USD 2139 and USD 3179 for cabinet supplies, to cover from reserves
    - Majority in favor – approved
  + Vote to cover chargers for laptops, approx. USD 198, to cover from tech fund
    - Majority in favor – approved

**Principal’s Report**

* Grateful to community support that allowed for Fall Fest and middle school dance
  + Special thanks to Fall Fest Committee and Executive Board
* Great to see Greenhouse and Spanish kick off
  + Kindergarten interest in Spanish
* Futsal opportunity, New York Futsal ([www.newyorkfutsal.com](http://www.newyorkfutsal.com)) to join recess on Thursday and volunteer their time
* Lyric Chamber Music Society will be bringing in classical music artists to do workshops with children beginning next week, during music classes on a monthly basis for different groups of children
* Middle school
  + Tours going very well
  + Challenge of not offering organized sports programming – conversations ongoing to try to expand offerings
  + There are seats available! Please spread the word!
* Attendance and lateness
  + Some teachers reporting that children are not in the yard on time, and brought to classrooms by families late
    - Missing morning meeting and corresponding SEL lessons
    - Missing daily announcements
    - Missing grounding for the day
  + Please help us bring children to school every day and on time

**Upcoming Events**

* IDC Parent Happy Hour – tomorrow! Thurs 9 Nov. See Konstella for details
* Family Giving Kick Off – Fri 17 Nov
* 6-8 Movie Night – Fri 8 Dec
* Winter Concert & Bake Sale – Mon 18 Dec
* Experiences Auction – delayed till spring
* Fun Run – delayed till spring

**Volunteer Opportunities**

* Critical/Upcoming
  + Book Sale Co-Chair – Looking for a K-2 parent to ensure continuation for the school
  + 6-8 Movie Night Chair – Looking for a middle school parent to organize; a non-middle school parent could also support
  + Book Donation – Donating boxes of books through Gale Brewer book drive and looking for parents who can take 1-2 boxes after drop off one day. Date(s) tbc
  + Broadway Loves MSC – Looking for multiple volunteers, including Co-Chair(s). Sign up on Konstella
    - Big fundraising night for MSC – Broadway performers come and perform for the MSC community
    - Plans to involve children this year
  + Winter Concert & Book Sale – Looking for multiple volunteers to ensure the success of the Mon 18 Dec event
* Ongoing
  + Green Team – looking to form a new Green Team with at least one parent from each grade. Goal of Greenhouse maintenance and activity as well as helping MSC with being a Zero Waste school, Climate Action Days, etc. Sign up on Konstella
  + Kindergarten tour guides – Looking for parents who can lead tours, which supports smaller parent groups during tours. Kindergarten and first grade parents are encouraged to join because prospective families love to talk to families who have joined recently. Training will be provided. Sign up on Konstella
  + Grant writing to support MSC – Parents with grant writing experience or those who are interested can support. Work can be done from home. ChatGPT can help. Please reach out!
  + Open Arms Liaison – Keep MSC posted on DOE actions, what’s going on more broadly in the city, etc.
  + Fish tank cleaning and maintenance – it has been cleaned once, so this is less daunting than before!
  + Join the IDC (Inclusiveness & Diversity Committee)!
  + Cultural event opportunities – Parents can propose and lead these activities

**Adjournment**

* Next meeting on Wed 13 Dec, 8:00pm on Zoom
* February meeting will be shifted
* Meeting adjourned at 9:22am