

## **Nishuane PTA Meeting Minutes**

December 15, 2021, 6:30 PM

Via Zoom

Link to meeting recording and chat log:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/pj3w4htdkjp721m/AAD8kNENGaYFg5CWtqZm2yAZa?dl=0>

### Agenda

- 1) Intro/Welcome
- 2) President's Update – Reggie Valentine
  - a) 3 to 1 ratio of community events to fundraising events
  - b) Nominating Committee: to evaluate all possible nominees and choose one qualified nominee for each position
  - c) Fundraising: poinsettia (\$650), family game night (\$215), \$11,000 worth of books through the Book Fair
  - d) Community outreach: Holiday Gift Drive (\$1,100), partnered with SATp for Hanukkah Kahoot game night, Virtual Kwanzaa Celebration Friday
  - e) Teacher appreciation: raised \$450 for gifts. Luncheon Dec. 16 (tomorrow)
  - f) Parent appreciation: Working with Hillside to plan spring adult event. Pancake Breakfast is also on our radar for the spring
  - g) Membership: 201 (we owe some people Spirit Wear)
  - h) Pandemic: Montclair Public Schools Covid-19 Data Dashboard available
- 3) Approve last meeting's minutes – Daniel Garcia-Pedrosa
- 4) Class Partners
  - a) Class Gift is in full swing, including for classes without class partners
  - b) Class Gift is for teacher and any paras
  - c) Separate collection for SNAP / related arts closes today
  - d) Office staff, custodial, etc. receive gifts from PTA
  - e) Mr. Eder voices appreciation of holiday gifts each year

5) Principal's Welcome – Frank Sedita

- a) Thank you to OneNish!, PTA, and Ms. Williamson for the Holiday Gift Drive
- b) Thank you to Rachel for Explorers
- c) Recently completed Cycle 1 CI & aesthetics. Jan 4: launching Cycle 2
- d) First cycle of RTI (3-tiered support system) was very successful. Ready Set Grow program launching, tentatively Jan. 11
- e) Professional Development with Principal Cafelli, joint with Hillside and Glenfield
- f) New tent outside for lunch. Still using 40 degrees as benchmark, considering “feels like” temperature, wind, cloud cover, precipitation, etc. 28 degrees is threshold for recess.
- g) Able to space out even more on indoor lunch days, between cafeteria, library, and classrooms
- h) Uptick in District COVID cases
- i) Potential volunteers to supervise outdoor lunch (exploratory). There is a District-level vetting process for any volunteers
- j) Tomorrow, Sept 16 7:30pm (virtual) – SATp meeting. Will include a more in-depth discussion on outdoor lunch
- k) Congratulations to Mr. Eder and Ms. Williamson for receiving the Governor's Educator of the Year Award
- l) Virtual Kwanzaa celebration with Hillside this Friday
- m) Production – we are working with Mr. Eder on contingency plans
- n) Board of Education meeting – Monday, December 20, 7:30pm

6) Committees and Events – Susan Gardner Zartman

- a) PTA Board Nomination Committee. Thank you to the following parents for volunteering to be on the Nishuane Nomination Committee to help identify a slate for 2022-23
  - i) Kendra Johnson (1<sup>st</sup> grade)
  - ii) Rachel Bloom
  - iii) Brian Mills (1<sup>st</sup> grade)
  - iv) Cody Swick (Kindergarten)
- b) Available positions
  - i) President
  - ii) Recording Secretary
  - iii) VP of Events & Membership
- c) Nominating Committee was voted in unanimously

- 7) Explorers Update – Rachel Rajaram
  - a) Winter session begins week of Jan. 24
  - b) 6 weeks instead of 8, to leave time for spring session
  - c) Mostly indoors
  - d) Class descriptions will go out end of this week. Registration begins next week and continues until shortly after break.
- 8) Public Health Committee's next topic will be COVID. They will be sending out information on Facebook. Possible guest speaker in January.
- 9) Strategy – Mallory Coleman
  - a) Over \$1,000 raised between mums and poinsettia sales. One poinsettia has not yet been picked up – will be brought to school office
  - b) Charleston Wrap fundraiser to start in the spring. Items are shipped directly to home, school gets a percentage of sales
  - c) Working with Mr. Eder and Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds on a 5K race in the spring
- 10) Treasurer's Report – Jessica Liebson
  - a) Total in bank \$89,346.29 as of 12/15/21 (not including Book Fair revenue). Increase of over \$13k from November
  - b) Highlights:
    - i) Explorers
    - ii) OneNish! Brought in close to \$4k that went directly to families in need during Thanksgiving and a gift drive for the December holidays
    - iii) Poinsettia fundraiser
    - iv) Book Fair
    - v) Redhawk Nation Art Council Performance (November)
    - vi) Kwanzaa Celebration (this Friday)
    - vii) Class Gifts / SNAP gifts / all staff & teachers
    - viii) Teacher's Holiday Lunch
    - ix) Family Trivia Night
- 11) Mr. Eder
  - a) Health & Wellness Committee – this Saturday 12/18 at 1:30pm. Workout at Bridge Athletics on Valley Rd. \$15/person. 25 person maximum
  - b) Will look to find a yoga place in January

- c) 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Challenge: Parents vs. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student activities, outdoors on a Saturday

#### 12) Q&A

- a) Arun Rajaram: Confirming temperature for outdoor eating, “feels like” 40 degrees and up. After winter break, default will be indoor lunch. Looking into outdoor option with volunteers, but indoor will always continue to be an option in colder weather. Snow can cause issues for tents.
- b) Brian Mills: Offering logo, graphic, survey help.

#### 13) Adjourn

- a) Next meeting is January 20, 2022.