

9/22/22 1st PTA Meeting open to everyone at Nishuane

Started at 7:06PM

<https://mpsdnj.zoom.us/j/8137333502>

Meeting ID: 941 0638 3051

Passcode: Nish2020

Attendees: Mr. Sedita, Mrs. Coe, Obie,, Renee, Jessica, Anita, Karen and Susan (24 online participants, 20 in person)

Minutes from PTA Meeting

- Welcome and introductions (Obie Miranda-Woodley) (5 minutes)
- PTA Mission (2 minutes)
To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children
- PTA Membership (Renee Williams) (3 minutes)
Reviewed benefits of being a PTA member. Also, gave a PTA membership update as well as gave instructions on how to join the PTA via memberhub and the different levels of membership

Reviewed upcoming events:

- October 6: October PTA Meeting 7:00pm
- October 7: Nishuane/Hillside Latino Heritage Celebration
- October 11-16: Book Fair
- October 12: Bike/Walk to School Day
SATP Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds Committee
- October 16: 37th Annual Pancake Breakfast
- October 17: SATP Meeting 7:00pm
- October 26: School Picture Day
- October 31: Cast of Characters Parade
- November 1: Thanksgiving Food Donation Drive
One Nish Committee

Approved minutes from June Meeting

- Everyone agreed in person and online

Principal's Report (10 minutes)

- Thanked PTA for Faculty and Staff Breakfast, helping w/1st day of school preparation and BooHoo breakfast which made everyone feel welcomed, and for the hard work done during the summer to prepare for back to school
- Introduced Ms. Coe as the new Assistant Principal, and thanked her for helping prepare Ice Pop social
- Welcomed Ms. Larino (new drama teacher)
- Mentioned we are fully staffed with new recent hires of Special Ed teachers and

paraprofessionals and one additional Special Ed teacher was hired today, and actively hiring for more positions

- Mentioned we don't have a Librarian for Library currently, however, former Librarian (Marian Arnold) has been been a volunteer and will be becoming a regular volunteer
- Will be working with Ms. Arnold and the PTA to make sure Nishuane has a culturally responsive and updated Library
- Ms. Coe and Frank have been focused on actively engaging students in learning and Social Emotional learning for the first 6 weeks of school
- Also, currently in assessment period - getting benchmark assessments done that come from district - Renaissance Learning, English Language Arts and Mathematics, Acadience (English Language Arts), Go Math (Math). Need this data to determine if they need enrichment or tiered intervention support. Teachers will be proactively sending correspondence to parents about these assessments)
- Upcoming events: SATp meeting - 10/17 - it will be hybrid, thanks PTA. Looking and reviewing building goals focused on Nurturing Hearts and Nourishing Minds. Academics with SEL, data and conversations working with stakeholders will inform goals at the SATp meeting. Had a meeting last week to get goals out before coming to the meeting. Will release goals to the community first week of October as a draft for input before SATp so we can give feedback at the meeting on the 17th. Every event should support learners and the community.
- Regular communications - coming out through Instagram as well now thanks to Ms. Coe. Must put child's name in message so request can be accepted
- Nish News will be coming out every Friday evening between 5 and 9PM. PTA are active collaborators in these communications to make it more effective
- Week of October 3rd, Tara Wentzell , spearheading Week of Respect, will be in backpack flyers and regular communications. It is tied in to bike and walk to school week.
- Hispanic and Latino Heritage month is being celebrated to get community engaged at school.
- Co-sponsoring an event at Hillside with the SATp so encouraged everyone to come out and support

PTA Treasurer's Report (Jessica Liebson) (4 minutes)

- Purpose of raising money - do exciting things for school
- Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade got new furniture
- PTA offers \$300 for teacher stipends, \$200 for related arts, \$100 for related services and child study team
- Wishlist: Library, books, sensory room, etc. Figuring out what makes the most sense
- Currently we have \$69,000 available
- Ordered AC Units for classrooms that didn't have

- Had Fireball
- Going to vote on full budget in 2 weeks
- We have \$42,000 that has been spent that rolled over into this year's budget
- A little over \$17,000 we are looking to be invoiced and bill
- Everyone voted yes to the approve the temporary budget, October 1st we will do final budget

Open PTA Board Positions (Anita Fee Willis) (3 Minutes)

- Recording Secretary - take minute notes
- Vice President Membership & Special Events - Membership and get to work with committee chairs for special events

PTA Committees (16 minutes)

Explorers (Karen Murphy)

- Still some spaces for Nishuane Explorers
- Classes will start October 11th, they will send out weekly reminders
- Encouraged to send feedback on what is working well, what isn't

10/16/2022 Pancake Breakfast & Hospitality (Dominique Young)

- Host 8 events throughout the year for Nish Staff
- Next one is Tea with Mr. Sedita, Holiday luncheon
- Welcomed 2 new parent volunteers
- Teachers' appreciation week is big event
- Pancake breakfast taking place on 10/16 in conjunction with the Book Fair
- People who are on Pancake Breakfast committee meeting 8PM

Book Fair – Scheduled for 10/11-10/16 (Alliah Agostini Livingstone)

- Book year planned (Scholastic) Bookfair will be 10/11 - 14, live in person
- Wish lists more streamlined
- Opportunities to shop after school
- Shopping hours during shopping hours. Communications will be sent and they need as many volunteers as possible.
- Other ways to support fair. Encouraged to support through classroom wish lists.
- Some money can go towards buying books for the Library.
- Look for communications coming

Grow Lab (Justine Walsh)

- Month of recruitment is almost over
- Only missing representatives from Miss Delegros class
- Reach out through whatsapp
- Its 100% parent run
- Getting a compost bin - going behind the swings
- Full committee formed - 4 people

- Paperwhites are back this December
- Justine's contact info is jvmoncrief@yahoo.com

[Spirit Wear](#) (Megan Valdez not on call)

[One Nish!](#) (Shara Miller)

- Started by NishMom
- Fosters community of equity by helping one another meet critical needs
- Provided over \$7,000
- 8 scholarships for explorers
- 51 Families received gifts through winter holidays
- 2 Uber gift cards
- In October collection for gently used costumes
- In November, going to do fundraiser for grocery cards for the holiday
- Fundraiser supports larger fund

Public Health (Jessica Estriplet)

- Recently she started the Nishuane Public Health committee to educate the community about public health issues
- She and another nurse practitioner came together
- Started talking about mental health illness
- Then talked about covid and at end of year touched on talking about how to stay healthy with eating well.
- Had a speaker - What we can do as parents for picky eaters.
- They send a newsletter or get an expert to come in and talk about an area of their expertise - pediatrician, etc.
- More hands, able to work on and share more evidence based things they've done
- She is going to post things they've worked on to Facebook page
- Parents to lookout for a 1 question survey where they list 5 things they want the committee to talk about with kids regarding public health
- 1 topic is definitely obesity
- Asked people to reach out if they have any questions or know someone good who works with kids and health - reach out to that person and try to connect them with her
- J.s.estriplet@gmail.com is her email address

[Website](#)

- Alexa Capeloto to give overview of PTA website
- Ashley has made user-friendly changes to the design
- It is a great resource and they want to promote it even more so the school communities know that it is available

- Go to Nishuane Pta website and give feedback for improvement

Open committee Chair positions (2 minutes)

- Description of Committee chair positions
- Class Partner Liaison

Reviewed ways to stay informed such as:

- Nishuane News
- Facebook Groups
 - Nishuane PTA
 - Parents & Caregivers at Nishuane Elementary School
- PTA Website: www.nishuaneppta.org
- School Website: <https://nishuane.montclair.k12.nj.us/>
- Class Partner Emails
- Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade Whatsapp groups
- Classroom Whatsapp groups

SATp

- Kendra - Kickoff meeting 10/17 at 7PM
- Flyers will go out in week or two
- Translated into spanish
- Community leaders to evaluate school's improvement plan
- Introductions in first meeting, goals district would have approved
- Healthy bodies, healthy minds, social justice, parent palooza, pennies for pages, disability acceptance
- Need people to be parent chairs
- It's mainly about making sure your committees are involved
- Kay - Four meetings scheduled for rest of school year
- Info will be on the flyers about upcoming events
- They meet every other month
- Hispanic Heritage month is a focus
- Apple crunch event 10/27
- Parent palooza
- Kwanzaa
- These are events to date and open to more ideas
- Sign up genius is going in the chat so people can sign up for a committee

Q & A

- Mr. Eder wants to have more fun events with the corn stalks

- Elizabeth said last year SATp shared examples of what they had done in the past. She also suggested the PTA makes sure we hear from others about what has been done in the past to bridge the gap

Jessica Beman won \$25 gift card (upgraded from \$20)

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM