



FRIENDS OF MSC PARENT ASSOCIATION

9/21 Meeting

- WELCOME-Call to Order
- President's Report-intro (defer to later)
- Principal's Report
- Treasurer's Report, FG & BUDGET VOTE
- IDC Introduction
- Family Healing Ambassador Introduction
- President's Report (wrap up)
- SLT/Co-Secretary OPEN roles (Old Business)
- New Business
- Adjournment

Principal's Report

- Smooth opening. Kids are safe and happy.
- Priority is safety and COVID Free
- Empathize on not being able to come in the building this year.
- Support Claire this year.

Water:

- School is shared by 3 schools. They all came together this morning to talk about the water and decided that it will be turned on. Children will have access to filtered water stations.
 - Teachers will review policy with students this week
 - Kids sign out/Pass for kids
 - Two at a time to refill bottles
- Lead levels will be updated. Safe as far as school is aware
- Custodians were flushing water and will be weekly.

Cafeteria:

- Eat in classroom not an option due to COVID safety
- No parents can volunteer due to COVID safety
- Cafeteria has big windows, fans, and doors remain open.
- Kids have 20 min to eat lunch and are two by two at a table.
- No eating outside due to space limitations and shared space with other schools.
- Kids are encouraged to wear masks in cafeteria when not eating.
- Labeled tables by grade and class have been implemented to reduce risks and accountability.
- Central Park isn't an option due to timing.
- 7th and 8th grade are not permitted to go out to lunch to limit mingling. Perhaps 8th will be able to do so in October.

- Teachers have allowed kids to eat in the class if they haven't had an opportunity to finish lunch. Breakfast is grab and go and is available in the morning.

*From Tatiana: The cafeteria has 3 air purifiers, all the windows/doors are open. In addition, there are fully operational supply and exhaust fans. They provide fresh air and the exhaust fan removes stale air. This information comes directly from our Custodial Engineer

Middle school principal:

Begin looking at the end of September. In the interim, the point person is Claire. Hope to wrap by end of October/Nov.

Teacher Vaccination:

Small population have not been vaxxed. If not given the first dose by 9/27, then they will be asked to leave unpaid 9/28. They will have the ability to go on medical leave until September 2022. If not vaxxed by 9/5/22 they will need to resign. They can come back once they meet vax requirements.

Lockers:

Not a possibility because of social distancing and space. Need to limit mingling, as the lockers are too close. Will not open this year as on right now. Kids can leave backpacks in their advisor's office or in their teacher's classroom, taking what is needed from class to class.

Quarantine:

- Per the Chancellor's new update -- As of 9/27, we will have weekly testing. Also starting Monday, September 27, in accordance with the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), we will no longer close an entire classroom when there is a positive case in the classroom. Unvaccinated students who are masked and at least three feet distanced from a student who tests positive are not considered close contacts under CDC guidelines and will not have to quarantine. This new policy applies to all students in any grade.
- Follow up on outbreak quarantining in café.
- If you feel your child is unsafe at lunch, you can pick up your child for lunch and bring them back. Parents can enter if they are vaxxed, if not vaxxed someone will bring the child down.

Transportation:

Shortage of buses and drivers. Formal complaint was filed by Malaka, who is working to improve the process with OBT. If your bus route has changed or if your bus is late, please tell Malaka.

*From Malaka: Please email me any OPT Bussing concerns as soon as possible so I can reach out directly to them on your behalf. Email me at MBanks5@schools.nyc.gov

Yard:

- Is open after school hours, as it becomes public after school hours.

High School Enrollment:

- Workshops will be held to support HS enrollment. Alison can be reached: Aesses@schools.nyc.gov HS

Phone policy:

- If kids have phones out they will be taken. Unless teacher gives permission for academic purposes, the children cannot use the phone. Read the cell phone policy to your student. This has been done for all 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th graders. Must be enforced.
- MSC Student Handbook
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OY1ftPjMJnJUj8R9YH_AGfD4HDOzLhk_/

Treasurer's Report, FG & BUDGET VOTE

- Families own this budget; we hope families feel empowered to engage with the budget by asking questions and proposing ideas.
- Focused on two things, spending on “classic MSC” programs and funds to be directed to students directly, serving as many students as possible.
- Raising money in 2021/2022 by asking for it.
- Hosting events for all to partake.
- Feel free to email, chat at pick up, etc.
- Carry over balance from years past. Giving us the opportunity to go into this year in an excellent position.
- Large event is planned, format pending COVID.
- Budget is built on optimism and reality, pulling from previous years.
- Items particular to this year--water is in budget. \$8k and air quality improvement \$5k—if we need more air filtration.
- Teacher supplies and requests come from the teachers at the end of the year and is split with the school and the PA. Cost has gone down from previous years.
- Reserves approx. \$38k. We work to not touch this.
- Opportunity to think about how to enhance the school and funds for this year and long-term.
- Suggested donation is on Friends of MSC website. Requesting 100% participation from families, regardless of dollar amount.
- Reach out with swag ideas
- Looking for creative ways to host picnic
- Three third grade families are taking on Read-a-thon, supported by the PA. If you have an idea to spearhead a fundraiser, PA is open to support.
- When a teacher needs something, the teacher should ask Malaka first, then she will see what can be done and if the school cannot support Malaka will reach out to the PA for funding. Barrett will circle back on process.
- \$1,000 or more expense must be voted on by PA.
- Updates will be given as we amend budget.
- Vote on budget. 98% voted Yes, 2% Abstained.

IDC Introduction

- IDC Meeting 5:30pm 9/30
- Meet --Jonathan Goldman
 - Work to focus administration on IDC issues.
 - In need of new leadership, please get involved.
 - Need human resources to continue the essential DEI at MSC

Family Healing Ambassador Introduction

- Ambassadors: Karen Tsiropinas, Elaina
- New group from DOE
- Focuses on learning about health surrounding our community
- Reach out to get involved and learn more

SLT/Co-Secretary OPEN roles (Old Business)

- Get Involved!
- PA positions open: Co-Secretary and SLT (<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/school-leadership-team>)
- Election will occur in the next PA meeting for SLT. Someone from middle school would be ideal for representation.
- Class Parents: classparents@friendsofmsc.org

President's Report (wrap up)

- Shakira-- Climate strike downtown on Friday at 3pm. For more info reach out to Shakira.
- PA will help streamline communication
- Construction will have a completion date of September 6, 2022. Working twice as fast as before with a new company.
- PA is here to advocate for parents
- Lunchroom. Barrett spoke to epidemiologist, and they said to work on air circulation. Bring outdoors indoors. Keep air moving. Telepure filters in the cafeteria now. We will supply more fans, regardless of DOE regulations. PA is working to go above and beyond to enhance air quality.