



# Talented & Gifted School For Young Scholars

## Parent Teacher Association

Anand Raghunath  
Nina Reiniger  
**Co-Presidents**

Jennifer Fiore  
Ilaria Mogno  
**Co-Vice Presidents**

Rebecca Yoftahie  
Trina Edmundson  
**Co-Treasurers**

Laura Lampert  
Rasheedah Harris  
**Co-Secretaries**

### MINUTES FOR TAG PTA MEETING

Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Meeting Time: 8:15 AM – 9:15 AM

Meeting Location: TAG Auditorium

#### I. Call to Order

- A. PTA Co-President, Anand Raghunath, called to order the TAG PTA meeting on Tuesday, February 13, at 8:25 am in the auditorium of the Talented and Gifted School for Young Scholars.
- B. Co-Secretary, Rasheedah Harris, made sure parents and TAG teachers signed the attendance sheets. The following people were present: (see attendee list in secretary's binder)

#### II. Reading and Approval of the Minutes

- A. Hard copies of the January PTA meeting minutes were distributed.
- B. Anand made a motion to approve the January minutes; Rasheedah seconds. Minutes approved.

#### III. Vote on Budget Amendments

Anand explained that to save time we were doing the vote out of order of the Agenda. He said there are two proposed amendments to the budget.

1) One proposed amendment is to reallocate money from Theatre to move it to Chess. Theatre isn't happening this year so \$7,000 comes from that. Pam Simon clarifies to a question regarding the magazines – a parent got a major discount on them and those magazines were used in-curriculum. A parent asked if there was an alternative other than the money going to Chess, and Ananda said there is nothing else awaiting, the money would just roll over. Brandee Williams clarifies regarding Engineering For Kids, it is in-curriculum for grades 6, 7 and 8.

Vote: All in favor of the money going from Theatre to Chess? 20 in favor. Vote passes.

2) Proposal of Reallocation to Fundraising. Surplus of ~ \$4,467.91 is not allocated anywhere. Brandee says a line doesn't seem correct; technically the Theatre line should be different. Ananda explains the discrepancy in how the figures are being looked at. He said we determined there was some money in the Enrichment Coordinator line available. Brandee said we're doing interviews; Mr. Powell is still helping. Proposal to reallocate \$1,169 from Enrichment into Fundraising to fund the TAG Gala. \$5,637 above what was already approved. We'd still have enough for Enrichment. A parent asked how much the Gala usually brings in. Pam said \$3,500 - \$4,000 usually brings in about \$30,000, and she asked how much Fundraising was expecting to bring in. Anna Pan said \$25,000 - \$30,000, and that they've gathered about 25 items to auction so far. Anna said they've lowered the ticket prices to \$75 per person, and are not selling a limited amount of tables. Everyone will have a table and a guaranteed seat. Pam said it's a huge jump in cost but it seems Fundraising isn't projecting a huge jump in the money it generates. Nina said the venue was donated in previous years. Pam said in previous years the auction sub-committee had done a lot of work and searching; do you need that much money? Namita said that each parent should come up with one item for

auctioning. Jennifer Fiore said we're starting the online bidding earlier, and also for people who aren't at the auction. Johnnae Ferguson asked if these breakdowns of costs are based on actual quotes or are the guestimates? Anna replied that some are guestimates, some of the data. Pam asked if the surplus would then be wiped out, and Ananda said there would be large amounts of money taken but still some available. Brandee said we've been talking about this since November, and asked if they had any type of estimates. Ananda said when we approve a budget the amount in the budget is the maximum that can be spent. Pam said we don't necessarily have to spend the surplus; we can theoretically use some of it and save some for next year's budget, like a Teacher's Assistant (TA) for Kindergarten.

Vote: All in favor of spending the additional funds for Fundraising? 15 in favor, 8 opposed. Vote passes.

Anand said we are starting the 2018 / 2019 process. We have closed the 2017 / 2018 process as of this vote. The next Budget meeting is March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Namita said we've sent out the flyers for the TAG Gala, please buy tickets online.

#### **IV. Principal's Report**

**A.** Principal Cesar greeted the parents and said the gym is now in full use, the architects came in and the net was approved. The next step is total replacement of the ceilings.

**B.** The lower yard upgrade was approved. We had the \$250,000 grant; \$50,000 was taken for overhead and other money was taken out, so we have \$160,000 but it isn't enough to complete the yard. Gail Brewer's office suggested switching some funds around instead of piecemeal to finish it completely.

**C.** The Awards Ceremony will be different; just class celebrations.

**D.** Surveys will be sent home for completion. Parents of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are interested in taking the survey as well.

**E.** Results of Final Rally Assessments

**F.** Achieve 3000 – A representative will be here Monday morning, the first day back from February break.

**G.** K – 4 Technology Teacher – She is to be processed by the DOE. We hired her since November; it is a long process. She should be finally getting her file number. Principal Cesar said for grades 5 – 8 she interviewed someone yesterday, they are a substitute who she won't hire until she sees them with the students. They'll be on contract to stay the rest of the year.

#### **V. Question & Answer**

1. Rasheedah asked if the gym ceiling had been tested for asbestos. Principal Cesar said yes, the architects and engineers were there.

2. Johnnae asked about the status of the Technology La. Principal Cesar said the furniture was ordered, laptops are here. We have to go through contracted vendors.

Principal Cesar thanks the PTA for their support.

#### **VI. Treasurer's Report** – Anand explained that they are not here, we can post it online.

**VII. SLT Report** – Pam said that Principal Cesar and Vice Principal Dascal were there. Regarding detention, parents are not aware of when it is happening. She said we've requested that the people who there, like Mr. Solomon, who have access to the Jupiter system, enter it there. The SLT Committee is going into the CEP. The next meeting is tonight in the Tech room. A parent said that it is a breach of DOE policy to deprive kids of movement time. Pam said they're discussing it and asking, OK, what's the alternative? Is there a different way of discipline? Pam invites parents to come to the meetings. Responding to a parent, Pam

explains that our bylaws say the SLT meetings have to be held in the evening. That is the best time for TAG Administration and teachers to be there.

A parent said they noticed money in the Math budget. AMCAW w/ Tanya. There was a question of who to contact to purchase a smartboard, and Brandee said to contact Enrichment. Nina said we are planning for next year's budget now, if it can't go in now.

## **VIII. Committee Reports**

### **A. Audit**

1. Audit isn't here but they have done an audit.

### **B. Communications**

1. VP Pam Simon said the next meeting is tomorrow, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 am.

### **B. Enrichment**

1. The next meeting is March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Engineer for middle school is starting this month. Chess in-curriculum will start in May

### **B. Grants**

1. There is no new information.

### **B. Family Engagement**

1. VP Johnnae Ferguson said the January ski trip was enjoyed, and approximately 12 families stayed overnight. In June we have the trip to Kalahari indoor water park, the Multicultural event, the Welcome Picnic. February 27<sup>th</sup> will be another Wellness Workshop, it will be Asthma 101. They are planning playdates for March, April and June. She reminds parents to make sure they're signed up on the website. They need volunteers for all of the June events. Rasheedah said Field Day will be May 16<sup>th</sup> for grades K – 4, May 15<sup>th</sup> for grades 5 – 6, and May 17<sup>th</sup> for grades 7 – 8. We need volunteers, they can sign up on the website. Anand explained the parents go to Randall's Island with the students.

### **B. Budget**

1. Ananda said they are working on the 2018 / 2019 budget. The next meeting is March 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:15 am. They will discuss any proposals or anything concrete for next year. Nina said the Budget process is not well-defined. The next Executive Board meeting is in two days; we will be working on streamlining it.

## **II. Adjournment**

- A. 9:15 am - Ananda motions to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 am. Co-Secretary Laura Lampert seconds the motion. Meeting is adjourned.

### **Minutes submitted by:**

Laura Lampert, Rasheedah Harris, TAG PTA Co-Secretaries

### **Minutes approved by:**

Nina Reiniger, TAG PTA Co-President