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**TAG PTA Newsletter- February 2018**

1 message

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To: pamsim777@gmail.com

Wed, Feb 7, 2018 at 6:59 PM

**TALENTED AND GIFTED SCHOOL FOR YOUNG SCHOLARS PTA NEWSLETTER : : FEBRUARY 2018**

## **PRESIDENTS' STATEMENT**

Our next General PTA meeting will be a morning meeting on Feb 13th at 8:15am in the auditorium. Fundraising efforts have been going well with over \$192,000 raised so far through iPledge. If you haven't made your donation yet, please go to the PTA website and make your contribution today to help us support after school and in-curriculum enrichment next year along with programs, such as Singapore math and music for K-4, that benefit our children so much.

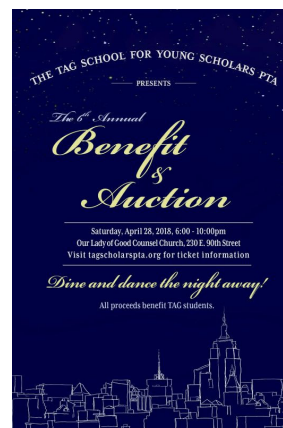
The 2018-19 budget process is starting up! Please watch for announcements about upcoming budget meetings and plan to attend. At those meetings, you will have a chance to be part of the discussion about how the funds raised this year are allocated for next year. It's parents like you who mold the budget and make the decisions about where money is spent. The budget will be voted on at a general meeting near the end of the school year, but the process starts now. Please come out to make your voice heard at the next budget meeting! If you are not sure what the PTA funds, we invite you to visit our webpage at [www.tagscholarspta.org/](http://www.tagscholarspta.org/), where you will find a link to the budget for the current school year.

We have lots of fun events planned for the new year, including the TAG Benefit (formerly known as the Auction/Gala) and more! Save the date of April 28, 2018 to join the party! Check [the PTA website](http://the PTA website) and read your class parent emails for more details!

## **FUNDRAISING**

### **BENEFIT & AUCTION**

The Benefit & Auction will take place on April 28th at 6pm. To find out more and to help solicit auction items, click [HERE](#) or on the flyer below.



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## **IPLDGE UPDATE**

All the best to all the TAG families for 2018!

*Nina Reiniger & Anand Raghunath*

*TAG PTA Co-Presidents*

Thanks to all those who donated funds to the IPLEDGE drive. Total donations so far are over \$192k. Congratulations to class K-113 for winning the ice cream party for most money donated.



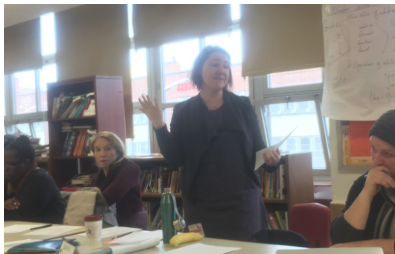
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## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

January was a busy month for the Family Engagement Committee! We again partnered with TAG to host another informative Coffee & Tea With Ms. C. We also held our annual ski trip in the Poconos, which was a blast! Check out the pictures below from both events. We have more great events planned for the upcoming months including the Wellness Workshop: Asthma 101 and Multicultural Day! Come share your ideas on these upcoming events and how we can keep TAG families engaged at our morning meeting on 02/09 at 8:30am and our evening meeting on 02/12 at 5:45pm.

### COFFEE & TEA

Last month's topic was "How Shared Inquiry Helps to Develop Listening, Speaking, and Critical Thinking Skills." Be on the look out for the next Coffee & Tea with Ms. C!



### ANNUAL SKI TRIP

It was a beautiful day full of sunshine and smiles at Camelback Ski Resort in the Poconos on Jan 27th.



## MEET OUR MT SINAI BASED HEALTH TEAM AT TAG!

The Mount Sinai School Based Health Center (SBHC) at the Tito Puente Education complex is a full-service health clinic whose services are available to every student with in the school community, once they are registered. It is staffed by Anisah Miley, LCSW (Social Worker), Elyse Meltzer, CPNP (Pediatric Nurse Practitioner), Juanita Gonzalez, MA (Medical Assistant) (pictured from left to right below) and Adam Melaney, LCSW (Social Worker, not pictured). The SBHC is partially supported by state aid. Your insurance may be billed, but there is no charge or copay to you for services. The clinic can be utilized in addition to, or as your primary care practice. All children will be seen regardless of whether or not they have health insurance or who their carrier is.

Ms. Meltzer, CPNP and Ms. Gonzalez, MA have worked at TAG for 15 and 10 years respectively. They meet nearly every TAG student throughout the school year.

Students come to the clinic for everything including playground injuries, acute sick visits, physicals, vaccines (flu as well as others), and chronic conditions (diabetes, asthma). Parents can bring their children directly to the clinic or call and ask for their child to be seen if they are not feeling well or have a concern. As a nurse practitioner, Ms. Meltzer is able to write prescriptions as warranted. The clinic staff works closely with

school faculty as needed whether it is helping a student who is having adjustment difficulties or collaborating with the gym teacher to identify asthmatic students who need treatment before the annual PACER test. Social workers Ms. Miley and Mr. Melaney have worked at TAG for 1.5 years and 4 years respectively. They work with students and their families, providing mental health services, that include facilitating ADHD and mental health screening, short term counseling, and referrals to outside psychiatrists/agencies.

Ms. Meltzer strives to have open communication with the entire TAG community. One of her goals is to have at least 95% of the TAG population register with the SBHC by submitting the parental consent packet. If your child has had a recent physical at an outside provider they would greatly appreciate a copy annually, so they can be in compliance with the NY State SBH mission to ensure that all children are receiving health care.

The Mount Sinai SBHC is located on the first floor in Room 107. It is open on school days from 8:30am to 2:30pm. Please stop by or call [212-360-7390](tel:212-360-7390) if you have any questions or to introduce yourself.



## ANNUAL WATER PARK TRIP!



### MAKE A SPLASH WITH TAG!

The TAG PTA Family Engagement Committee invites all TAG Families & Friends to our annual water park trip at



You & your child will LOVE winding down the water slides, playing laser tag, the arcade, gliding along in the lazy river, & more, while building great memories with family and TAG Friends!

**\$282.30** PER NIGHT

For a room up to 4 people  
(\$320.45 for 5 people, \$358.60 for 6 people)  
at the Poconos, PA location

\* Prices include water park passes

**JUNE 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>**

Choose to stay either:

\* 1 night on Sat June 9<sup>th</sup>/ check out on Sun June 10<sup>th</sup>

\* 2 nights on Sat June 9<sup>th</sup> & Sun 10<sup>th</sup>/ check out on Mon June 11<sup>th</sup>  
(PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JUNE 11<sup>th</sup>)

Make your reservation by calling  
Kalahari at 570-580-6000  
(Group: TAG for Young Scholars  
Group ID: 2838)

These discounted rooms are first come, first served.  
They sell out every year, so don't delay!



#### Kalahari amenities include:

- Colossal indoor & outdoor water park
- Spacious family hotel rooms
- Tons of water slides & pools
- Zip-lines & rope courses
- Delicious restaurants & snack bars
- Cabanas & swim-up bars
- And much more!!

Questions? Contact the Family Engagement Committee at [membership@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:membership@tagscholarspta.org).

## ENRICHMENT

## GET READY FOR FIELD DAY!

Planning is underway for our annual Field Day! Parent volunteers are needed to make sure the event is a success again this year. Sign up to help with planning, on the day of the events, and more [HERE](#).



**TAG YOUNG SCHOLAR'S**  
2018

**FIELD DAY**

Grades K-4  
**May 16<sup>th</sup>** ★

Grades 5 & 6  
**May 15<sup>th</sup>** ★

Grades 7 & 8  
**May 17<sup>th</sup>**

Rain Dates: May 22, 23, 24

**How Field Day Works:**

- There will be 5 team colors with students from every grade (students will get their team color in March)
- Teams compete across the many activity stations.
- The team with the overall best time **WINS A DRESS DOWN DAY!**

**Parent Volunteers Are Needed!**  
To make Field Day a success, we need parent volunteers for planning, helping at Field Day & more! Sign up today at [www.tagscholarspta.org/FieldDay](http://www.tagscholarspta.org/FieldDay)



## TAG'S CHESS TEAM UPDATES

Our TAG chess team participated in the Kasparov Greater Scholastics National Tournament in Brooklyn on January 6th and 7th. TAG sent 23 kids, and these are the teams' results:

- K-1 U400: TAG team ranked 19th out of 22 (only 2 players)
- Primary U600: TAG team ranked 11th out of 33
- Primary U1000: TAG team ranked 14th out 19 (only 2 players)
- Elementary U700: TAG team ranked 19th out of 37
- Elementary Championship: TAG team ranked 15th out of 22 (only 3 players)

Alexandra Phung, 1st grade, ranked 8th in K-1 Championship.

The girls will be heading to All Girls NY State hosted at NEST school on April 14th and 15th, and to All Girls Nationals in Chicago, April 20th-22nd. Any other TAG girls who would like to participate are very welcome!

TAG also participated in the Girls Spence Tournament on January 20th. Alexa Phung (1st grade) finished first in the Classic section. Alexandra and Sophie (4th grade) got first for TAG team in Reserve section and Margaux (K) did her first girls' tournament in first grade section and got two points.

Congratulations to all the TAG kids who participated!

Boys and girls are also all invited to participate to NY State Scholastic in Saratoga Springs, NY, March 10th and 11th. [Contact Enrichment](#) if you'd like your child to participate in any chess tournaments.



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## COMMUNICATIONS

### A MORNING PTA MEETING

The next TAG PTA General Meeting will be on **Tuesday Feb 13, 2018 at 8:15am in the auditorium**. Please note that we'll be doing a MORNING meeting this month, per our bylaws changes. Have questions you'd like asked during the meeting? Email them to [president@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:president@tagscholarspta.org).



## PTA MEETING MINUTES

Our last meeting took place on January 9th. There were several items discussed including SciTech, debate, swimming, detention, and more. Here are some highlights:

- SciTech started for grades 3 and 4 first since they have state tests in June. Ms. Blount (3rd grade teacher) thanked the PTA for bringing in a great program. K, 1st and 2nd SciTech classes start on Jan 16th.
- Sheri Henry, the current Debate Coach, advised this is her last year and is looking for another parent to train with her and take over next year. Anyone interested can contact Enrichment.

Want to read more or missed the last PTA meeting but still want to know what was discussed? All PTA meeting minutes are posted on the PTA website at <http://www.tagscholarspta.org/pta-meeting-minutes.html>

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## BUDGET

### NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET

The PTA budget process has begun for the 2018-2019 school year! Be sure to attend our next Budget meeting so you can give your input on items you'd like to see included in next year's PTA budget. The meeting will be held on March 1st at 8:15am in the library. If you can't attend the meeting, feel free to email the Budget committee. And don't forget you can check out the 2017-2018 PTA budget at <http://www.tagscholarspta.org/about-tag-pta.html#PTABudget>.

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## PTA CALENDAR - FEBRUARY

(More info: <http://www.tagscholarspta.org/event-calendar.html>)

Wed Feb 7	● All day	DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR AFTER SCHOOL PIANO
	● 8:15 – 9:15am	Fundraising Committee Meeting TAG's Auditorium
Thu Feb 8	● 2:30 – 5pm	Hip Hop Dance Class TAG Dance Studio
Fri Feb 9	● 8:30 – 9:30am	Family Engagement Committee MORNING Mtg TAG Library
Mon Feb 12	● 5:45 – 6:45pm	Family Engagement Committee EVENING Mtg TAG's Library
Tue Feb 13	● 8:15 – 9:15am	General PTA Meeting Auditorium
	● 5:45 – 7pm	SLT Meeting TAG
Wed Feb 14	● 8:15 – 9:15am	Communications Committee Meeting
	● 2:45 – 3:45pm	NEW Winter/Spring Piano Classes Start WEDNESDAY NON-Y Students
	● 6 – 7pm	CEC D4 Meeting TAG Auditorium
Thu Feb 15	● 2:45 – 3:45pm	NEW Winter/Spring Piano Classes Start THURSDAY YMCA after-school students
	● 6 – 7pm	Exec Board Mtg TAG Library
Fri Feb 16	● All day	Schools Closed (Lunar New Year)
Mon Feb 19	● All day	Schools Closed (Midwinter Recess)
Tue Feb 20	● All day	Schools Closed (Midwinter Recess)
Wed Feb 21	● All day	Schools Closed (Midwinter Recess)
Thu Feb 22	● All day	Schools Closed (Midwinter Recess)
Fri Feb 23	● All day	Schools Closed (Midwinter Recess)
Wed Feb 28	● 2:45 – 3:45pm	NEW Winter/Spring Piano Classes Start WEDNESDAY NON-Y Students

## CONTACT THE TAG PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Please don't hesitate to reach out to anyone on the board with your questions, ideas, and concerns.



<b>Co-Presidents</b>	Nina Reiniger Anand Raghunath	<a href="mailto:president@tagscholarspta.org">president@tagscholarspta.org</a>
<b>Co-Vice Presidents At Large</b>	Ilaria Mogno Jennifer Fiore	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@tagscholarspta.org">vicepresident@tagscholarspta.org</a>
<b>Co-Secretaries</b>	Laura Lampert Rasheedah Harris	<a href="mailto:secretary@tagscholarspta.org">secretary@tagscholarspta.org</a>
<b>Co-Treasurers</b>	Rebecca Yoftahie Trina Edmundson	<a href="mailto:treasurer@tagscholarspta.org">treasurer@tagscholarspta.org</a>
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<b>Vice Presidents of Communications</b>	Ming-Yi Smith Pamela Simon	<a href="mailto:communications@tagscholarspta.org">communications@tagscholarspta.org</a>
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<b>Vice President of Family Engagement</b>	Johnae Ferguson	<a href="mailto:membership@tagscholarspta.org">membership@tagscholarspta.org</a>
<b>Vice Presidents of Grants</b>	Michelle Macaraig David Kwok	<a href="mailto:grants@tagscholarspta.org">grants@tagscholarspta.org</a>

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**Have feedback or an event/ article you'd like included in the monthly newsletter? Email it to:**  
[communications@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:communications@tagscholarspta.org)

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