

# TAG PTA Newsletter - January 2017

1 message

TAG PTA <communications@tagscholarspta.org> Reply-To: TAG PTA <communications@tagscholarspta.org> To: pamsim777@gmail.com Wed, Jan 4, 2017 at 6:05 AM



TALENTED AND GIFTED SCHOOL FOR YOUNG SCHOLARS PTA NEWSLETTER : : JANUARY 2017

## **PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT**

Dear TAG Family,



As 2016 comes to a close, now is a good time to reflect and be thankful for where we are as a PTA and TAG community as a whole. We have worked diligently with Ms. Cesar to help fill the open TA and teacher positions and now they are all filled. It is a testament to the strong relationship we have with TAG administration that the PTA can offer assistance during challenging times and that we can work together to find solutions to problems.

Many congrats to our Fundraising team for a record-breaking iPledge drive (almost \$120K!) and other successful Fundraising events. We also had opportunities to build community through our Membership Committee activities such as Family Night

## **Membership Committee News**

In conjunction with our annual Book a Fair, the Membership committee hosted Family Night, our annual school wide meetup for crafts, games and sport. We would like to thank all the volunteers that made it a successful event, including several 8th graders who helped setting up and with activities.

We also visited New York Common Pantry on E 109th st. Our kids donated fruit, cheese, granola bars, yogurt and homemade cookies. The

Pantry is a great resource in our neighborhood and serves more than 5000 families citywide, offering a pantry service, a meal service for homeless, and other daily supports, including helping with benefits applications.



and develop a parent database through the great work of our Communications Committee. Many thanks to our Enrichment Committee for working hard to provide some wonderful enrichment activities such as Chess, Theater, and Mandarin. Our Grants Committee has been instrumental in getting us needed Technology grants.

We have many exciting events on the horizon: Ski Trips, Valentine Grams, TAG Auction, Talent Show and Field Day among other things. Please volunteer as much time as possible, the events we have coming up will need all the people power we can get. Please reach out to the various TAG committees to see where you can help. The TAG PTA has big dreams, like having TA's in every class and equipping our children with the best technology in the classroom, but we can't achieve them without the support of everyone in the TAG family.

We thank you again for all the great work and support this semester. On behalf of the TAG PTA we would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!



Join us for our play date on January 7th at 2pm, at Dave and Buster's in Pelham, Bronx, 881 Pelham Parkway, Pelham, NY. Feel free to reach out to our yahoo groups if you need a ride from the closest subway stop.

TAG families and friends are invited to ski the day away on Saturday January 28th at Camelback ski resort in Tannersville, PA. There are skier and non-skier options that include round-trip transportation, ski lessons, equipment rental, and more! Buy your tickets at <a href="http://www.tagscholarspta.org/skitrip.html">http://www.tagscholarspta.org/skitrip.html</a> by Jan 17th before they sell out!

Click to enlarge



## COMMUNICATIONS

The administration would like to introduce new teachers who started working at TAG recently.

- Mr Clifton Powell Jr. is the new PE Assistant Teacher, he will support Mr Wong in the gym and supervise the kids during recess.
- Mr. James Dargan is the new Music Teacher for K-3rd.
- Ms Nakia Spencer is the new Kindergarten Assistant Teacher.
- We also have a new Technology Teacher, Mr Robert Duryea.

#### Regards,

Trina Edmundson & Anand Raghunath TAG Co-PTA Presidents Mr Powell, Mr Dargan and Ms Spencer are sponsored by the PTA with the funds parents have generously donated last year.

### ENRICHMENT

Fall 2016 has been busy as the Enrichment Committee, with the support of fantastic parent volunteers launched after school chess, piano, and Mandarin as well as middle school debate and theater. In-curriculum activities included trips to New Victory Theater, poets in the classroom, and in-curriculum chess for grades K-1.

TAG now has new staff members: assistant Physical Education teacher, Mr. Powell, who is able to support Mr. Wong with gym classes, and Mr. Dargan, the new PTA-funded K-3 music teacher.



Mr. Powell, new phsyical ed. assistant teacher, with 6th grade





Rocia, Shabnan, Raymond, Shannya winners at December 2016 debate tournament.



Mellisha Clayton (Shannya's mom) wins top judge at December 2016 tournament!

Scholars continue their busy tournament schedule as the debate team participates in a January 14<sup>th</sup> tournament at the Anderson School. Shabnan earned **6th place Top team award** as a maverick and earned the **10th place top individual speaker award** in the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Middle School debate Tournament on Saturday at Hunter College Elementary School.

The chess team will participate in the Greater New York Scholastic Chess Championship at the New York Marriott in February.

**Please note** that most of the enrichment activities are on a fall/winter schedule. If you plan for your child to participate in the winter session of chess, you must register at NYChessKids in advance of January 6<sup>th</sup> when the new session begins.

### **Fundraising Announcements**

### **DAVE & BUSTERS WINNERS!**

Congratulations to **AFIYA HARRIS** for being the top seller of Dave & Buster's Power Card sales. She won a \$50 Amex gift card, a dress down day, lunch and dessert courtesy of the TAG PTA. Also a round of applause to the runner ups the winners of lunch with dessert, and a dress down day:

- Mylia Sanders
- Stella Tardie
- Nicole Manning
- Kae Baylor
- Mia Buonasera

## **PICTURE DAY!**

The photos from Picture Day have been distributed to teachers, so you should have received them. If you have any issues, please contact LifeTouch at (877) 551-6832 so they can make alternate arrangements. If you missed picture day or are unhappy with your photos, retakes will be done in February. Look out for more details!

#### **FUNDRAISING UPDATE**

The fundraising committee is so close to our \$175k goal! We've raised almost \$142,000 so far. This total includes funds raised from holiday grams, Dave & Buster's power card sales, BoxTops, and all the other programs in September-December. Thank you to all the TAG families who have participated!

#### PTA CALENDAR January - February

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Winter Recess: NO SCHOOL	Tue, Dec 27, 2016 - Mon, Jan 2, 2017	
Grants Committee Meeting	Tue, Jan 3, 2017, 8:15 am – 9:15 am	
General PTA Meeting	Tue, Jan 3, 2017, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	
Fundraising meeting	Thu, Jan 12, 2017, 8:15 am – 9:15 am	
Fundraising meeting	Thu, Jan 12, 2017, 5:45 pm – 6:45 pm	
Debate Tournament	Sat, Jan 14, 2017	
Martin Luther King Day: NO SCHOOL	Mon, Jan 16, 2017	
Executive Board Meeting	Thu, Jan 19, 2017, 6 pm – 7 pm	
Membership Committee Meeting	Fri, Jan 20, 2017, 8:15 am – 9:15 am	
Communications Committee meeting	Wed, Jan 25, 2017, 8:15 am – 9:15 am	
Enrichment Committee Meeting	Fri, Jan 27, 2017, 8:15 am – 9:15 am	
Debate Tournament	Sat, Feb 4, 2017	
Grants Committee Meeting	Tue, Feb 7, 2017, 8:15 am – 9:15 am	
General PTA Meeting	Tue, Feb 7, 2017, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	

More info: http://www.tagscholarspta.org/event-calendar.html

### **Contact the TAG PTA Executive Board**

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

**Co-Presidents** 

Trina Edmundson

president@tagscholarspta.org

#### Anand Raghunath

Co-Vice Presidents	Norma Corv Sara Coates	vicepresident@tagscholarspta.org
Co-Secretaries	Laura Lampert Rasheedah Harris	secretary@tagscholarspta.org
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Membership Co-Chairs	Kasha Cacy Ilaria Mogno	membership@tagscholarspta.org

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

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