



**Talented & Gifted School For Young Scholars
Parent Teacher Association**

Mark Levin

Rebecca Yoftahie

Presidents

Nadeige Sekyiamah

Sandra Alexander

Co-Vice Presidents

Johnae Ferguson

Anatoly Garelik

Co-Treasurers

Rasheedah Harris

Secretary

PTA Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, September 17, 2019

I. Welcome & Call to Order

- A. PTA Co-President, Mark Levin, called to order the TAG PTA meeting on Tuesday, June 18, at 6:10 pm in the cafeteria of the Talented and Gifted School for Young Scholars.
- B. Co-Secretary, Rasheedah Harris, made sure parents and TAG teachers signed the attendance sheets.

II. Reading and Approval of the Minutes

- A. Hard copies of the June PTA meeting minutes were distributed, reviewed and approved.

III. Emergency Election announcement. PTA Co-President, Mark Levin explained the PTA positions and 1 SLT position that are vacant and the need to fill them. He announced we will have these elections at our next General PTA Meeting in October and we will promote as such. Mark Levin introduced Mr. Johnson, our Parent Coordinator, for all who may not know him.

IV. Treasurer's Report – report handed out and discussed.

V. Budget Proposal (vote to finalize) – Revised budget presented by Deirde Pace (Budget Co-VP), discussed and approved. It's uploaded on the PTA Website.

VI. Principal's Report – See Principal's report on TAG's website.

- A. Principal Cesar greeted the parents, she welcomed the brand new families to TAG, she introduced 4th Grade teacher, Mr. Zack and PE teacher, Mr. Wong.
- B. Ms. C announced they are embarking on a new process called the “Listening Conference” during the traditional Parent Teacher Conference / Curriculum night, in the beginning of the year. After reviewing the survey results, parents strongly agreed the conferences went smoothly. They are considering providing child-care next year and increase the time from 10 minutes to 15 minutes. She recognized parents wanted more opportunities to visit the school more frequently, they are working on options for that.
- C. State Scores came back, TAG remains at the top 1% of efficiency. ELA 95 Math 93% efficiency.
- D. We really need a higher skill level person for a TA for our 2nd and 3rd grade. This is why she recommends K-1 TAs only. She discussed other teachers vacancies and being filled. We have two TAs in 1st Grade and 1 in K. They are working on the hiring process to fill that position. They just hired a middle school teacher and they are processing the new 2nd Grade teacher hire process. She stated it seemed more feasible to have the Meet The Teachers in the morning, as she's always done. She asked how many parents preferred the morning, most of the attendees raised their hands for morning preference. It was confirmed in-curriculum chess will start in October.

VII. Committee Reports –

Family Engagement Co-VPs, Trina Edmundson and Kate Chechak, discussed their committee and various events. They discussed the Family Engagement (“FE”) calendar, planning a new parent mixer for new parents for Oct. 11 located at Dear Mama's Cafe from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. They will offer childcare at the school for children. They are offering apple and pumpkin picking, career date, play dates, sip and paint, etc. All information will be sent home, via flyer and emailed out. And can be found on the PTA Website. Class parents update: they have many parents for K, they need 1 for 1st grade, we have none for 4th grade, many for 5th, none for 6th, 7th or 8th. They will choose 2 parents only for each grade and they will have training for the Class Parents the following week.

Enrichment. We do not have a VP for Enrichment. our Co-VP at Large, Nadeige Sekyiamah, is overseeing the Enrichment roles and duties. to assist with launching of the PTA after-school enrichment activities. She strongly urge folks to step up to help to keep these activities going.

Fundraising. We do not have a VP for Fundraising. our Co-VP at Large, Sandra Alexander, is overseeing the Fundraising committee and the roles and duties for it. She was selling TAG wear on site

and our PTA Co-President, Mark Levin, discussed the other fundraising initiatives and activities. next mtg will be 9/27.

Our Co-VPs of Communications are not present, they are traveling.

We introduced VP of Audit, Lacey Villinueva.

SLT (School Leadership Team). They are working on the first SLT meeting date. Rasheedah stated the SLT works on the CEP (Comprehensive Education Plan), encouraged folks to read up on it and learn about it.

Eric Crump, D4's CEC President, introduced himself and discussed the CEC. He mentioned the SDAG (School Diversity Advisory Group) and their reports released and recommendation to phase out G&T programs. This is just a report and an advisory suggested, he said the D4 CEC has asked a member from SDAG to attend their CEC meeting to discuss the report and they will have it soon and will let us know the date. Said Carranza (our Chancellor) stated New York City is the only place in the country to have Specialized High School and Gifted and Talented Schools admit children with one high stake test only. Carranza did say he believes this needs to change, in which way, he did not state.

Principal Cesar announced we have doctor's on site where we used to have the school nurse. Stated they give vaccination shots, etc.

Kate Checkek, Co-VP of Family Engagement, read a statement from the PTA Executive board, addressing the SDAG's report to phase out G&T programs. The statement is on our PTA Website.

VIII. Adjournment

8:34 pm – Rasheedah Harris motions to adjourn the meeting. Laura Lampert seconds the motion. Meeting is adjourned.

Minutes submitted by:

Rasheedah Harris, TAG PTA Secretary