

**Museum Alliance for Science and Technology**  
**P.S. 154 PTA - General Membership Meeting**  
**Friday March 9, 2010, 6:30pm**  
**Multi Media Room**

**Welcome**

PTA President, Deb Capone opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and started to look forward toward next year.

**Executive Board and Budget Timeline for the 2010-11 School Year**

Deb outlined the timeline for next year's budget and Board elections. In April a preliminary budget is presented to the membership and then in May, the preliminary budget is voted on by the membership. Executive Board elections have been in May in the past. Committee Head changes should be reported to Deb. Executive Board positions that are open for next year include, Co-president, Vice President of Publicity, Vice President of Membership, Vice Presidents of Fundraising, Members at Large, and School Leadership Team positions.

**Upcoming Events**

- Parent's Night Out
  - Scheduled for March 19 from 7-10pm at Posters Please in Chelsea. It will include food, open bar and a wine tasting hosted by Juice Bar. If wine is purchased to be picked up or delivered later, 100% of the profits will go to the PTA. Price of ticket is \$60.
- Music Matters – March 18th – Old time music and folk
- Music Matters – May 14<sup>th</sup> – All school concert outside - Haitian Ra Ra Band
- The Read-a-thon
  - There will be a bookmark design contest and a bookmark with the winning design will be given to all students.
  - Students who read the most in the grade groups will receive gift certificates to Barnes and Noble and the winning class gets to read to Mr. Ortiz.
- Movie Night – March 12th – 6:00pm
- PTA meeting – March 9<sup>th</sup>
- Book Fair – March 12<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>
- Art Craft Fair – Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup>
- Staten Island Yankees – PS 154 Night is June 24<sup>th</sup>. The PTA is looking into transportation for this event. The PTA will receive 25% of PS 154 ticket sales for 4 games.
- Brooklyn PTA Walk-a-thon – More information is coming. No labor is involved for the PTA. Register (a small fee involved) and show up to walk for the PS 154 PTA.

**PTA Budget Update**

PTA Treasurer, Diane Bromberg went over the budget. She pointed out the new "Flusher fund" line item to put new flushers in the rest of the bathrooms on the first, second and third floors. The flushers have been installed and were covered by the fund. This month's budget is reflecting more accurate figures. Diane and Kathy Lewis, Co-treasurer, are trying to track down missing credit card information in order to process pending donations.

**Begasse Trays Update**

The bio-degradable lunch trays cost approximately \$350.00 per month. Funds come in on a month to month basis

to cover their cost. District 15 and Brad Lander are looking for more economical options. We are a little behind in funding the trays this month.

**Judith Darling (Stonie's Mom) presents Razzle Dazzle Learning Company**

Judith Darling, in from Austin, Texas presented her approach to helping children with Language Arts and Writing homework and reducing the stress involved for parents. Ms. Darling has a background in teaching with a belief that students need to become independent workers and empowered. She has seven manualized plans including Expository Writing and Creative Writing. She works with teachers and students. In her presentation to the PTA, she explained that children need boundaries set-up for their homework. Children need to know what the expectations are for homework or projects. Ms. Darling outlined helpful tips to preserve a child's creativity in their work and to promote their productivity. Her ideology and method includes structured coaching, non-critical approaches to providing help, tapping for ideas as opposed to narrowing down possibilities, and giving age appropriate prompting.

Razzle Dazzle Learning Co. has a website at [www.rdlco.com](http://www.rdlco.com) and the telephone number is (512)263-5997.

The meeting came to a close at approximately 8:15pm. The next PTA meeting will be April 13, 2010 at 6:30pm. Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Altman