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## P.S./I.S. 78Q PTA

40-09 Center Boulevard, Long Island City, NY 11109 (PK-1)  
46-08 Fifth Street, Long Island City, NY 11109 (2-8)  
(718)392-5402

www.psis78pta.org  
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# Meeting minutes

September 20 2023 | 6:30pm | Meeting called to order by K. Craig

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### In Attendance

Attendees: 54 people including below

PTA Executive Board: K. Craig, E. Allen, R. Gunness, A. Shum, K. Kitsis

SLT: K. Craig, R. Gunness, R. Zelwinder

School Leadership: D. Rombone, J. DiRoma, E. Montalvo

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by K. Craig.

### Approval of June 2023 Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the June 2023 meeting were approved.

### Introduction of PTA Board

K. Craig, R. Gunness, E. Allen, K. Kitsis, A. Shum

### Proposed Budget

2023- 2024 proposed budget was presented and voted upon. Vote passed.

### Proposed Events

2023- 2024 proposed PTA fundraising events were presented and voted upon. Vote passed.

### Variety Boys and Girls Club

K. Craig introduced the new team at Variety Boys and Girls Club. The team explained the new after school program and answered questions. Key dates and scholarship information was included in the presentation. The afterschool program includes enrichment such as dance, drama, chess, arts, homework help, amongst other activities. The ratio for afterschool is 10 students to every one supervisor. Variety Boys and Girls Club are also assisting with recess at both the Middle School and the ECC.

Marc Lyons, Director: [marc@bgequeens.org](mailto:marc@bgequeens.org)

Benjamin Fein, Assistant Director: [benjamin@varietyboysandgirlsclub.org](mailto:benjamin@varietyboysandgirlsclub.org)

Noshin Begum, Site Administrator: [nbegum@varietyboysandgirlsclub.org](mailto:nbegum@varietyboysandgirlsclub.org)

### Treasurer's Report

Revenue and Expenses to date were presented. See presentation for more details.

### SLT Election Announcement

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K. Craig explained the role of the SLT committee and invited those interested in running to make a declaration to run before October 3rd. The election will take place after the PTA meeting on October 11th. Two vacancies will be filled, at least one of these positions must be filled by a parent with an elementary aged child.

### **Upcoming PTA Events**

Kindergarten Meet and Greet - October 5  
Fall Gala- October 18  
Table or Treat- TBD  
Picture Day- November 9  
Turkey Trot- TBD

### **Fall Gala**

Early Bird Tickets on Sale through Tuesday September 26. Tickets available to sponsor a Teacher. Visit Website for preview of silent auction items.

### **Kindergarten Meet and Greet**

Taking place on October 5th at Culture Lab.

### **Table or Treat**

Halloween celebration with activities for children. More details to follow.

### **Thank You to Our Summer Garden Volunteers**

Thank you to all the families who volunteered in the two school gardens over the summer.

### **Volunteers Needed**

Fall Gala and Silent Auction Committee - looking for parents to volunteer their time to help plan the Gala and to help at the event on October 18th.  
Events Committee- looking for a chair and volunteers to help plan and set-up events throughout the year.

### **Important Dates**

Monday September 25- Yom Kippur- school closed  
Monday October 9- Italian Heritage/ Indigenous Peoples' Day- School Closed

### **Ways to Contribute**

There are many ways to support PS/IS 78Q while you shop, including: Minted, FlipGive, and Book Culture.

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Please ask employers about donation matching, A. Shum can assist with any questions.

### **Principals Report**

Assistant Principal Ms. Rombone thanked parents, teachers, staff and PTA. Encouraged parents to contact the school and work together to make the best school possible. Confirmation of school trips taking place this year. Introduction of the new Assistant Principal Ms. DiRoma. Ms. DiRoma spoke and introduced herself.

### **SLT Report**

R. Gunness gave a report on the SLT Meeting that took place on September 15th. The SLT Special Election taking place in October was discussed. The school has a new website which is now live and is regularly updated. There will be a new messaging app for the school to contact parents, more details to follow. Field trips are going ahead this year, classroom teachers will communicate details. State test scores have been released and are available in students' MySchools accounts.

### **Questions and comments**

1. A question was asked about the timeline in the reduction of class sizes based on the NYC Class size bill signed by Gov. Kathy Hochul.
2. A question was asked about parent involvement in the school. Parents being permitted inside the building, classrooms, birthday parties, parent workshops, etc. D. Trombone answered that they are starting to implement more opportunities for parents to become more involved in the school now that all of the Covid restrictions have been lifted. E. Montalvo is also beginning to schedule various parent workshops. More information to follow. Parents can contact their classroom teacher to arrange a time to meet in person if they would like to. PTA Meetings will continue on zoom as it allows more people to attend.
3. A question was asked regarding whether children were invited to the Fall Gala. Children will not be allowed at the event however a lot of the local businesses provide Kids Night's Out so parents can enjoy the gala. More information to follow.
4. A question was asked on whether the Zoom link will remain the same throughout the school year. The answer was yes it will remain the same and can be accessed by visiting the PTA website on Linktree.
5. A question was asked on whether the After School Program provided by the Boys and Girls Club will be open on holidays. The answer was that no, the program is only available on days when school is open and in session.
6. A question was asked about visiting the student's classrooms and teachers. D. Rombone answered that all teachers have a 55 minute time window available

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weekly for parents to make an appointment to come in and see the classroom and ask questions in person.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

Meeting was adjourned by K. Craig at 7.32 p.m.