



Talented and Gifted School for Young Scholars Parent Teacher Association

Johnae Ferguson
President

Rasheedah Harris
Vice President

Yue Zhang
Treasurer

Liz Butler
Secretary

MEETING MINUTES - TAG PTA GENERAL MEETING

Date: Tuesday October 19, 2021

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Virtual, via Zoom

Attendance:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Present?</i>
Johnae Ferguson	President	X
Rasheedah Harris	Vice President	X
Liz Butler	Secretary	X
Yue Zhang	Treasurer	X
VACANT	VP of Family Engagement	
Kiersten Franz	Co-VP of Grants	X
Felix Garcia	Co-VP of Grants	
Steven Leshnower	Co-VP of Audit	
Anatoly Garelik	Co-VP of Audit	X
VACANT	VP of Budget	
Marco Tomaschett	Co-VP of Communications	X
Dan Rubenstein	VP of Fundraising	--
Fangyu Chen	Co-VP of Enrichment	X
Amit	Co-VP of Enrichment	--
Mr. Jonathan Dascal	Principal	X
Ms. Jennifer Cosme	Assistant Principal	X

Quorum (minimum 2 executive board members and 6 parent members): Yes

AGENDA

I. Call to Order, President's Welcome 6:00

II. President's Report 6:05

Copis of the agenda, prior meeting minutes and current budget were disseminated in the Zoom cha.

welcome from Johnae, introduction of Mr. Dascal. Mr. Dascal introduced TAG staff in the meeting and introduced superintendent Cruz.

III. Superintendent's Report 6:10

Congratulations on being named 3rd elementary and 13th middle school in the state.

Brilliant NYC - Only knows what is in the press release. Apologized for things said at the district meeting the day before and promised to look into the issue of incoming students to TAG. Lastly she asked parents to reach out to her directly to express their thoughts and to set up a forum to speak as a group.

IV. Principal's Report 6:30

V. Approval of Minutes 6:45

VI. Treasurer's Report 6:46

VII. School Leadership Team Report 7:00

VIII. Committee Updates 7:15

A. Budget - Liz Butler mentioned that the VP of Budget is vacant and an election is to be held later in the meeting, as well as, a vote to approve the current budget.

B. Fundraising - Marco Tomaschett informed parents that we will be kicking off the official IPledge drive soon but that donations can always be made by going to the PTA website.

C. Enrichment - Fangyu Chen spoke about some ideas the new Enrichment VPs have for this year, including Mathkangaroo and the scholastic chess tournament. TAG's debate vendor spoke about the TAG Debate Team and encouraged parents to register for virtual classes starting on October 29, 2021.

D. Family Engagement - Marco Tomaschett mentioned that the VP of Family

Engagement is vacant and an election is to be held later in the meeting. He went on to say that the PTA is getting ready to launch it's class parent program and anyone interested in being involved should reach out to the executive board.

- E. Grants - Kirsten Franz provided an update on plans to spend last year's grants on things such as new bathrooms and plans for the committee to apply for additional grants this year. Kirsten also mentioned ongoing discussions with Ms. Scott (YMCA Afterschool).
- F. Communications - No update
- G. Audit - No update

IX. New Business

7:30

A. 2021-2022 Budget Review & Vote

The parent body reviewed and approved the budget for the 2021-2022 school year.

A parent asked Mr. Dascal about the federal monies that were given to all schools this year and how the administration is planning to use them. She was interested to know why at least some of those funds aren't being used to offset programs currently being funded by the PTA. Mr. Dascal explained that they are waiting until the end of the month to hear about exactly how much money they have available to them and, at that time, he will engage with the PTA and the superintendent on the matter.

A parent proposed the following amendments to the language of the budget - both of which were approved by the general parent body:

1. In the description of the TA budget line, the language was changed from "four TAs at an hourly rate of \$15.00" to "three TAs at an hourly rate of \$20.00."
 2. In the grade column of the Debate Team budget line, the language was changed from "5th-8th graders" to "4th-8th graders."
- B. TA Hiring Committee - Liz Butler asked anyone interested in joining the TA hiring committee should reach out to the executive board. Mr. Dascal explained that two TA would be assigned to kindergarten and one TA would be assigned to the 1st grade as a floater.
 - C. Tagwear update - Marco Tomaschett spoke about a small amount of TAGwear which is located in Mr. Johnson's office. He also mentioned that the board was considering changes vendors which would allow for items to be made to order and shipped directly to parents. Parents were told that their children are allowed to wear plain red sweatpants and white t-shirt for gym.

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- D. DOE G&T Plans - M. Dascal confirmed that there will indeed be new incoming TAG students for the 2022-2023 school year. However, the admission process that will be used to determine who is offered a spot is still unknown.
- E. PTA Advocacy Account - A poll was taken regarding the PTA advocacy email account and whether the information provided should be disseminated via email or on the PTA's website. The poll favored the continued use of the email account.
- F. Elections - Liz Butler was appointed election chair. Confirmation was made by Mr. Dascal that he had checked through the meeting registration list. Nominations were taken from the floor for both open positions and descriptions of the positions were provided. Both elections were unopposed. The winners were announced:
- Budget Co-VPs - Yujie Nakano & Mei Chen
 - Family Engagement VP - Emily Gao

X. Adjournment

8:30