



PS17Q Henry David Thoreau Parent Teacher Association

December Meeting Minutes December 17, 2024

Date: December 17, 2024

Location: PS17 auditorium

Time: 7:00pm-8:00pm

Website: <https://www.ps17qpta.com/>

Executive Board:

President: Samantha Cabrera

Co-Vice Presidents: Jennifer Smith and Adila Todic

Co-Secretaries: Armenuhi Avanian and Amanda Persaud

Treasurer: Elisabeth Wickeri

Committee Chairs

Fundraising Committee Chair: Ryan Patterson

The general monthly meeting for the PTA of PS 17Q was held on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, on Zoom. With Quorum met, the PTA meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

1. PTA Co-Presidents Updates:

- a. President Samantha Cabrera called the meeting to order and welcomed the community.
- b. She thanked the community for attending the November potluck and for supporting the activities in the past month, in particular the Book Fair.
- c. The Read-A-Thon was a success. Running November 4- December 4, 54 participating kids read 32,214 minutes. \$6,005 was raised, and the PTA keeps 80% of that amount (\$4,804). Total kids who participated was 54. Top readers (in minutes) and top classes (in reading sessions) were announced. Classes will get extra recess, and the individual winners will “pie” teachers and Ms. Heyward in the face in the coming weeks.
- d. The Parents’ Night Out fundraiser hosted by Gentle Arts on November 16 was a success. 33 students attended the event; each student attending paid \$30, and the entire raised amount of \$990 was donated to the PTA. Everyone was encouraged to mark their calendars for another PNO fundraiser for PS17 is planned for

Saturday May 10!

- e. Informed everyone about upcoming events.
 - i. Winter Dance has been postponed to March and asked for volunteers to help come up with a theme.
 - ii. Scholastic Book Fair is on March 17-21
 - iii. Multicultural Festival on May 19

2. Minutes

- a. It was noted that the minutes from October and November 2024 were available online. (<https://www.ps17qpta.com/copy-of-who-we-are>). The Treasurer/Co-vice President asked if there were any questions or comments, and objections to approval; hearing none, the minutes were approved.

3. PTA Vice-Presidents Updates:

- a. Vice- President Jennifer Smith thanked all the November Volunteers
- b. Requested for volunteers for January events.
- c. Announced that there will be a PTA Newsletter starting in January.

4. Treasurer's Report

- a. The Treasurer presented expenses and income for the PTA from November 21, 2024 - December 17, 2024, and gave a rough breakdown of income and expenses for Candy Grams. During this period, \$8,516.68 was raised towards our overall goal, and we had \$536.19 in expenses. Asked for caregivers to join Audit and Budget Committees
- b. The Treasurer and Co-Vice President reported that the Executive Board had continued to discuss a move towards 501c3 incorporation. Following a discussion, caregivers were asked to vote on whether we should pursue incorporation, and the vote passed. Volunteers were asked to contact the PTA if they are interested in sitting on an incorporation committee. .

5. Fundraising Update

- a. An overview of fundraising activities planned for 2024-2025 was displayed.
- b. Families are encouraged to contact the fundraising chair with ideas and participate in fundraising.
- c. **Upcoming events:**
 - Holiday candy grams - will be distributed to classrooms on Thursday, December 19.
 - Scholastic Book Fair - mid-March
 - Next Craft Sale will be in the spring - We want to sell more crafts made by the community so start your projects now!

6. Wellness Council

- a. Amybeth Whissel provided an overview about the Wellness Council and its activities planned for 2024-2025, and invited caregivers to join the mailing list and to get involved.
 - b. Monthly Meeting: second Wednesday of each month via Zoom
 - c. The next wellness meeting is on **1/8/25 at 7pm** - <https://bit.ly/WCMtg2425>
 - d. Mental Health & Self Care Fair: Saturday, 2/1/25
7. Principal's Report
- a. Ms. Heyward welcomed families.
 - b. Principal Heyward announced the Title1 money voted took place at November's PTA meeting
 - c. Ms. Heyward announced to boost attendance at workshops to support the school academic goals the next 2 workshops will be virtual and there will be incentives offered as part of participation. The two meetings are on 1/7/25 and 1/14/25.
 - d. She informed caregivers that progress reports will be provided to students.
 - e. Also encourage caregivers to complete the Mid- year Survey.
 - f. Awards were presented to Students for math, reading, attendance, and beloved community. Principal Heyward read the names of all students receiving awards. Students not present received their awards in backpacks.

The next PTA meeting will be January 28, 2024 at 6 pm in person at PS 17.