



A. In Attendance

It was noted that (a) parents and other “persons in a parental relation” as defined by NYC Chancellor regulations as designated persons having a relationship to a child or children currently attending Q300 (Parents) and (b) eligible Q300 teachers and instructional staff members who are currently employed on a full-time basis (Staff) at Q300 were present. The total number of Parents and Staff (Members) present was 30. Quorum was reached.

B. Call to Order

President Mauricio López Campero called the virtual meeting to order at approximately 6:35 pm ET.

C. Principal’s Report

Principal Sonita Ramkishun reported tha Upper Division families have received an email survey from Ms. Tonianne. The email is to survey interest in participating in the CHAMP basketball and volleyball programs, which will be offered this spring to Q300 students in Grades 5-8. The math state test will be held on May 7 and 8 for Grades 3-7; students in Grade 8 will be taking the Algebra Regents in June. If you have any questions about testing, please contact your child’s teacher.

The Upper Division’s cafeteria will be upgraded shortly after Spring break. Updates will include new tables and a free-flowing cafeteria line where students can choose their items instead of being served.

Principal Sonita will share various “save the dates” for May and June in her May 3 Principal’s Message.

Please complete the New York City School Survey. The survey gives school leaders a better understanding of what members of their school community think about their school. The information collected by the survey is designed to support a dialogue among all members of the school community about how to make the school a better place to learn. The survey closes April 19. You can fill out one survey per child. Please contact Jenny Lando at jennylando@q300.org if you have not received the survey or if you have questions about the survey, including your child’s OSIS number.

As of now, there is no limit on guest tickets for Eighth Grade graduation. Teachers will be providing additional information about graduation tickets shortly.

The administration sent out a test email several weeks ago and did not receive any bounce backs. Jenny Lando said that based on reports from parents, there are only 8-10 email addresses that are not receiving emails from the school. If you do not believe you are receiving Principal Sonita’s Friday afternoon emails, please contact Jenny Lando. Class parents have been asked to advise parents that they should contact Jenny Lando if they are not receiving emails from the school. A note will also be backpacked home.

Finally, Happy Spring Break.

D. President’s Report

President Mauricio López Campero thanked the Green Team for their work on the Climate Action and Art Day, which took place on April 6. Unfortunately, the second part of the Green Team’s event, which was scheduled to take place on April 13, had to be canceled due to rain.

Mauricio reporting on the status of the Teaching Assistants (TAs). Many parents have raised concerns about TA turnover. Over the past several months, many TAs have left the school. One TA who has been hired as a replacement is the last TA who will be hired for this academic year.

Next month, the PTA will hold an election for 2024-2025 Board positions. Please consider running for a position on the Board. If you have questions about what a specific position would entail, please contact Mauricio at president@q300pta.org.

E. Treasurer's Report

Co-Treasurer Sophia Peng delivered the Treasurer's Report. In the month of March, Direct Appeal inflows were approximately \$18,000. The total raised for the Direct Appeal is \$215,000; with pledges included, the target of \$230,000 has been reached. Much of the Direct Appeal inflows in March were from corporate matches. If your employer offers corporate matching, please take advantage of this. March inflows from fundraising events were roughly \$730 (from Winterfest); Winterfest has raised more than \$14,000 to date. Approximately \$21,000 has been raised in total to date from various fundraising events. Including shopping fundraisers, that number is approximately \$27,000. Outflows relate to enrichments, curriculum-based special field trips and teacher wish lists. As a reminder, the PTA has budgeted \$550 per teacher for teachers to purchase classroom items on their wish lists. If you have not yet claimed your teacher wish list funds, please do so. The PTA earned bank interest and incurred PayPal fees related to the Direct Appeal; preference is for checks as the PTA incurs a fee for donations made by credit card or PayPal. Cash inflows for the month of March were approximately \$27,000. Cash outflows for the month of March were approximately \$25,000. If you would like details from the March Treasurer's Report, please email treasurer@q300pta.org. If you are interested in working with the Co-Treasurers after Spring Break on the Budget Committee, please email treasurer@q300pta.org.

F. School Leadership Team (SLT) Report

SLT parent member Mauricio López Campero reported on the SLT's meeting held on April 8. One of the SLT's main goals is to establish Q300's Comprehensive Education Plan (CEP) where the main goals for the school are agreed upon and outlined. Development of the CEP was the focus of the last meeting. Last year, schools were allowed to have multiple goals per DOE priority. This year, schools can have only one goal per DOE priority. The DOE priorities for the current school year are: (1) All Students Learn to Read Well; (2) All Students Are Physically and Emotionally Safe; (3) All Students Have a High Quality Academic Experience; (4) All Students Graduate College and Career Ready, and Have a Strong Plan and Pathway to Economic Security; and (5) Redesign the System to be More Inclusive and Responsive for Parents and Families. The goals are all meant to be actionable and will be tracked through i-Ready and state test results.

Next year, the school intends to survey parents more often to solicit their feedback.

G. Committee Reports

1. Mauricio López Campero reported on behalf of Co-Vice-President of Membership Afrosa Amin that the PTA is updating its list of potential school supply distributors. In the past few years, Q300 has used its budget to provide students with school supplies. This year, Q300 will be providing parents with a list of school supplies which parents will be responsible for purchasing. The PTA is vetting a distributor who can provide the supplies on the list and deliver them in bulk to Q300. Parents will pay a fee for the supplies. Q300 has a financial aid program available to those who need it. If you require financial aid for school supplies, please email parent coordinator Jenny Lando at jenny@q300.org. If you would like to volunteer to research school supply distributors, please email afrosaa@q300pta.org.
2. Vice-President of Community Affairs Salua Baida reported on Participatory Budgeting. New York City Council District 22 community members will be able to vote, thanks to Councilmember Tiffany Cabán, to allocate \$1 million on various ballot items put forward by the community. If you live, work, or attend school in District 22 and are at least 11 years old, or are the guardian of a child who attends school in District 22, you are eligible to vote. There are two ballot items that will benefit the Q300 community. One is for bathroom

renovations, courtyard renovations and auditorium renovations at PS 17. The other is for water fountain updates at IS 126. Councilmember Cabán visited the Upper Division on April 14, where students learned about the process from her and were able to vote in real time. Voting has now concluded; results will be shared when they are available. On April 19, Dr. Yaisa Andrews-Zwilling, a neuroscientist, will be coming to the Lower Division, reading *Ada Twist, Scientist* and speaking about her work as part of “Leaders Are Readers.” Community helpers and leaders who participate in the Leaders Are Readers series visit the school, do a read aloud, and talk about what they do. Councilmember Cabán kicked off this series in March. Thank you to Alisha Arthur for referring Dr. Andrews-Zwilling.

3. Communications Co-Vice-President Betty Ruan asked that parents who are interested in writing for or editing Q300’s Newsletter consider joining the Newsletter Committee. If you are interested, please email communications@q300pta.org.
4. Lower Division Co-Representative Erica Soto Eng reported on behalf of Fundraising that the “Buy One, Get One Free” Scholastic Bookfair will be taking place on May 22 and 23 at the Lower Division. This year the annual Stepping Into Summer Auction will be held in tandem with the 10th Anniversary Carnival. The Carnival will take place on June 1 at the Upper Division. The rain date is June 8. Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week is May 6-10. If you would like to join Erica and Alisha Arthur on the Teacher and Staff Appreciation Committee, please contact Erica at EricaS@q300pta.org.
5. Direct Appeal Co-Chair David Wang reported on the Direct Appeal, which raises more than 80% of the PTA’s budget and helps fund TAs in the Lower Division, enrichments in the Lower and Upper Divisions, teacher “wish list” stipends for classroom use, Chromebooks for the Upper Division, and many other resources. Thank you to Sue Sekar who is the Direct Appeal Co-Chair, Co-Treasurers Sophia Peng and Amy Wong, and to all the Q300 families who have made donations or pledges to the Direct Appeal. The Direct Appeal has exceeded its fundraising goal of \$230,000. The PTA is now focusing on formulating and sending out its Enrichment Surveys, which will inform how the money that has been raised will be sent.

H. Resolutions

A motion was made to pass a resolution to approve the allocation of \$250 for the purchase of solar eclipse glasses for distribution to students, teachers, staff and others. In order for students to receive a pair of glasses, parents/guardians will be required to sign a permission slip in which they state that they have consented to their child receiving such glasses, have reviewed the solar eclipse glasses safety instructions, and have discussed the safety instructions with their child. Thanks to Yvette Choy who spearheaded the purchase of eclipse glasses and to the Board for their discussions on the various issues surrounding the glasses, and to the administration for collaborating with the Board as to how to distribute the glasses. The motion was seconded. The members then present approved the motion.

A motion was made to pass a resolution to amend the 10th Anniversary Carnival budget line to \$21,000 in revenue and \$17,500 in costs, and to rename the Stepping Into Summer Auction as the Spring Auction, with \$5,000 in revenue and \$0 in costs, as well as to pass a resolution to approve the allocation of an additional \$700 to the monthly themed enrichments. The motion was seconded. The members then present approved the motion.

A motion was made to pass a resolution to approve the allocation of up to \$4,000 total for a poster printer and laminator for each campus. The motion was seconded. The members then present approved the motion.

I. Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made to approve the March 21, 2024 general membership minutes. The motion was seconded. The members then present approved the motion.

J. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15 pm ET. The next general membership meeting will be held on May 23, 2024 at 6:30 pm ET on a virtual platform.

Kate Swearengen & David William Wang, Co-Secretaries