

Parent rep meeting minutes 9/18/08

Introductions; welcome to Namita, our new principal

Parent rep guidelines: Guidelines from Family Handbook were distributed; the handbook will be only available online starting this year. Parent reps act as liaison between parent in their classes and the administration, and also help with class needs, such as planning class breakfasts, organizing volunteers, end-of-year teacher gifts, and other requests that teachers may have. Reps are encouraged to discuss with their co-reps how to divide responsibilities for the year; one can do the e-mailing, while the other can handle sign-ups for potlucks, field trips, etc., for example. When e-mailing, please put "LREI" in the subject line. Parent reps also act as community builders by letting parents know how to get involved, for example by joining some of the various school committees. Reps should let their class parents know about upcoming events by e-mailing after meetings, and by referring them to the blog (updated every Thursday). Please use discretion when e-mailing to parents; also try to consolidate information to cut down on the number of e-mails.

Agenda items should be submitted at least two days prior to parent rep meetings. Some issues may not be appropriate to discuss in this forum.

Tracie McGee is the school contact to ask for coffee service, space, or anything else needed for events. Request forms are available in her office (located next to the Development office), and will also soon be downloadable through LREI.org/Parents Association page. These forms should be submitted one week in advance of your event.

Welcome parties: Guidelines were also distributed and discussed for planning parent welcome parties. Dates for parties should always be cleared by Sharon Fong & Kim Hostler before being announced to parents, so that conflicts with other school events can be avoided.

Ideas for future open parent meetings: Topics of interest to many parents have come out some of the coffees Namita has held. Examples are: how to discuss privilege & entitlement issues with children; how to deal with technology/the Internet in our children's lives. Parent reps are asked to consider what topics may interest their particular grade; NYC Parents in Action is a resource for planning such meetings. The link to the Parents in Action website is available through the PA page of LREI.org.

Announcements:

- Building for Action event Wed. 9/24, 6 to 8 PM, NYU Law School.
- Picture Day 10/6
- Halloween Fair 10/26—Volunteer sign-up coming soon, as well as drop-off box for donating small toys for prizes.
- New Green Committee!
- PA Welcome Fairs 9/22, 6 PM (Charlton St.); 9/24, 8 AM (Sixth Ave.).

In attendance: Namita, Susie Marples, Sharon Fong, Kim Hostler, A.M. Homes, Carin Ehrenberg, Hilary Meltzer, Sue Richman, Lisa Paoletta, Lara Olivieri, Susan Noonan, Carol Eng, Lili Ervin, Yvette Kovats, Susan Harris, Shindy Johnson, Lisa Busillo, Erin Eccles, Kim Beck, Shannon Barden, Liselotte Vince, Liz Kurtzman, Merril Stern, Ruth Yang, Diane Hoffman, Mishi Hosono, Zoe Picayo, Dawn Wheatley, Phil

Thanks to Yvette for these minutes.