

**PAUL REVERE CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL  
PRIDE/PTSA PARENT MEETINGMINUTES  
Sept 23, 2016**

**Approval of the Minutes**

Minutes from last Parent Meeting meeting were approved.

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**SCRIP**

Dori announced sales of SCRIP benefit PRMS, and requested a volunteer to take over SCRIP program. Scrip is sold at beginning and end of Parent Meeting.

**PTSA**

Maryam Zar welcomed 6<sup>th</sup> grade families to PRMS, and encouraged sign-up for Communications newsletter. She explained that where PRIDE raises money for class size reduction, Farm, etc., PTSA takes care of “health and safety” for a \$25 membership.

- emergency earthquake supplies for entire school and in each classroom;
- anti-bullying program;
- National art contest (Reflections), Music scholarships;
- Revere Cares – funds for administration to discreetly provide school supplies, food cards to students in need. Donors can drop off cash or gift cards to office (Lori Vogel or Mr. Koretz) or online

**Mr. Steven Anderson – Math Pathways Program**

8<sup>th</sup> grade Math Teacher (31<sup>st</sup> year teaching middle school, 16<sup>th</sup> year at PRMS, and 13<sup>th</sup> year as Math Dept Chair). Mr. Anderson discussed PRMS’s Math program -- “the finest Math program in entire District.”

6<sup>th</sup> grade – 6<sup>th</sup> grade math or Accelerated (formerly “Honors”)  
7<sup>th</sup>      7<sup>th</sup> grade math, Accelerated, Algebra  
8<sup>th</sup>      8<sup>th</sup> grade math, Algebra or Geometry

**Accelerated Math**

At end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade, all students will be tested to see whether they are going into 7<sup>th</sup> grade math, 7<sup>th</sup> Honors, or Algebra. At end of each year, the Math teachers discuss every single child, based on test administered by PRMS, grades, and student’s “whole package” to determine which class they will be placed in the following year.

Accelerated Math incorporates 1 ½ years of Math into each year. To stay in the Accelerated Math track, kids have to work very hard.

**Common Core**

Rather than discussing the pros and cons of Common Core, Mr. Anderson emphasized that PRMS is successfully supplementing it and keeping the excellent results that existed pre-Common Core (e.g. CST testing, Geometry, 95-100% kids were Advanced or Proficient; similar for Algebra). Common Core is not a problem for PRMS because we have “great kids” and great teachers. Our teachers knowing what to teach in what order. Everything is going really well.

The Math Department selected textbooks that incorporate Common Core, but also have practice sets (unlike most of the Common Core textbooks). PRMS is the only school in the district with that book. He reiterated not to worry about Common Core testing at the end of year. The most important thing is getting the kids ready for high school and college (SAT, ACT).

Math tutoring is offered before school, during lunch, and after school.

## **Principal Ianucci**

### **iPads & Chromebooks**

iPads have been issued for most students. Students are benefitting from having personal iPads, in classrooms that are using this technology. It will not be financially feasible for PRMS to remain a 1-1 iPad school after next year, however, because LAUSD is done with the program (when an iPad breaks, the District will not replace it.) We will need donations and grant-writing to keep PRMS 1-1 technology program.

Over next two years, PRMS will transition to Chromebooks because they have more flexibility. District would not allow families to bring Chromebook or iPad from home because they don't have the same Firewalls, etc.

### **Parent Education**

Free monthly seminars by Dr. Richard Cohen, therapist about various topics, such as communication with kids. Schedule available online. Next parent seminar is October 18, 2016. Meets in Library.

*Screenagers* movie screening was a great way for community to be educated, work together. Will be adding more education programs.

PRMS will have its first ever Family New Year's Eve party in Town Hall, December 31, 2016.

### **Mr. Ruben Valerio (6<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor & Community Service Club)**

Community Service Club gets kids involved in giving back. All grades are welcome to Wednesday lunch meetings, volunteer with fundraising. 7<sup>th</sup> graders additionally can be in Community Service homeroom.

Mission: helping people and animals in need, creating a caring community environment, while developing leadership skills in the kids. Many ideas for their projects come from the kids' experiences.

Year 1: Raised \$3000 – had grant-solicitation process. Gave grants, including to Raincatcher (clean water in Uganda)

Year 2: Raised \$4,000 – students voted which groups would receive donations

Year 3: Raised \$5,000 – students voted again, making donations to Pug Nation L.A., NKLA, Super Lemonade Brothers, Raincatcher, Free the Children.

Fundraising has included selling Peace Day Buttons, Teacher Appreciation Grams, selling Portrait sessions donated photography by teacher. Parents can get involved in fundraising, contact Mr. Valerio.

Volunteer opportunities occur at school and off-campus, including at Pug Nation. Great Kindness Challenge (door decorating contest).

Student Pres (Mikey) and VP (Sean) discussed events they participated in, including “WE-Day,” a Concert/event for community service where speakers talk about what they’ve done, along with performances by pop stars. They also discussed what they love about the Community Service Club.

Mikey (Pres) said it is fun, he likes feeling involved in the school with more meaning than just classes. School has more meaning, feels happy to go to school because he gets to help people.

Sean (VP) – joined in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and in 7<sup>th</sup> grade joined the Homeroom. He started a non-profit Super Lemonade Bros to get new toys for Children’s Hospitals, and last year raised \$450 to buy toys. He was inspired by his elementary school friend Dylan who had cancer, who he accompanied to chemotherapy sessions, to help make the kids happy during a sad time. In addition to toys, they donate clothes because parents can’t always go home to change clothes.

In addition to the Community Service activities, Mr. Valerio asks the kids on Google Classroom, “what are you thankful for?” At their meeting they also talk about ideas, like kindness – why is it important to be kind? Helps kids learn how to speak publicly.

If students cannot attend Wednesday meetings, Mr. Valerio makes announcements via Google Classroom, and he can provide the Google Password for kids to join the Google Classroom.

### **Yogurt Shop fundraiser**

Sept 18-Oct 1, between 5-7pm.

### **Auction**

Dec. 3, gourmet food, open bar. Biggest fundraiser of the year is online auction and parent party with live auction.

Early bird tickets are \$85.

Need help: Buy tickets; get auction donations at businesses you patronize; help committee with big or small jobs, can be done at school or at home. All help is appreciated.

### **Carpool**

Online app Carpool to School.

### **Re-register Ralph’s Card**

Must re-register every year, Sept 1.

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### **Next General Parent Meetings:**

All Parent Meetings will be 4<sup>TH</sup> Fridays, in Town Hall 8 - 9:15 a.m. Next meeting is Oct. 28, 2016.

### **Next PRIDE/PTSA Board Meeting:**

All Board Meetings will be 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays, in Teachers’ Lounge, 8 – 9:30 a.m. Next meeting is Oct. 11, 2016.