

Cantiague PTA

PTA MEETING 1/11/23

11 January 2023 / 9:30am / In Auditorium and streamed on Facebook Live

ATTENDEES

PTA Executive Committee, Dr.Sapienza, Central Office and Board of Education members, parents, PPS Department

AGENDA

PTA Updates- Jennifer Cohen

- Welcomed all in attendance
- November PTA Meeting was a huge success- Town Hall with the Board of Education
- January 25th is the 5th Grade Concert
- The week of February 13th is Health Awareness Week.
- March 23rd is the return of Game Night.
- Reflections submissions are on display outside of the auditorium for you to take a look at.
- Refreshments for today's meeting are from Cool Beans. Please help yourself.
- Hats are for sale as well outside of the auditorium.
- The PTA Bylaws are up for renewal and can be found on Memberhub. Please reach out with any questions or suggestions. We will vote on them at the next meeting.
- We are looking for 3 volunteers to be on the Nominating Committee. Let us know if you are interested.

Principal Updates- Dr. Sapienza

- Welcomed everyone
- Spoke about the new format for providing school updates, the Monthly Newsletter. It will go out on the first Friday of every month and will include useful links and info for that month.
- Winter session of SCOPE starts tomorrow.

- The 5th grade concert will be at the Middle School/High School.
- There will be a scheduled lockdown drill at the end of the month.
- The Shared Decision Team has been working on reimagining “The Super 6.” January through June we will focus on one of the Super 6 to be the theme of the month.

Guest Speakers- PPS Department- “How to Improve Your Child’s Language Development” (handouts were passed out and a slide presentation was given)

- Topics discussed in presentation were:
 - What is language?
 - Receptive language
 - Expressive language
 - Pragmatic language
- Conversation and how to engage your child in conversation
- Understanding the Intended Language
- Questions were answered from the audience
 - What is the difference in what you see in Middle School versus Elementary School?
 - In Elementary School executive functioning skills are impacted, in Middle School there is more of the social aspect and functional communications.
 - How do you identify a child at the Middle School level if there is a need for services even if not identified in Elementary School?
 - Talk to teachers
 - Pull for screening
 - Conversation among colleagues
 - How is social media affecting kids?
 - Don't see the impact as much at ES level but more so in MS/HS level. Social media platforms can be good and bad. Limiting it is encouraged. Older children will be on them more so it is important to discuss with them the best ways to communicate on them.

- Rose/Thorn theory: ask your child to talk about something great that happened that day and something that was challenging.
- Opening lines of Communication with children, not “testing them”, have conversations about social media.

The next SEPTA meeting will be at the Middle School at 9:45 am February 2nd and focus on “Middle School Brain Development.”

Jenn Cohen gave closing remarks and thanked all for coming.