

**PTO Agenda for October 18, 2016 Meeting**  
**8:45 am in Counseling Office**

**Welcome & Introductions:** Karen Gall

**Principal's Report:** John Riggs/Brent Graham

**Teachers' Report:** Sarah Blackford, Mary Ellen Steele, Barb Miller

**Treasurer's Report:** Karen Gall

**Committee Reports:**

Magic Phoenix (Manhattan's Major Fundraiser): Darcy Fan

Projects Committee: Shannon Collier

Science & Music Gardens: Jennifer Dingman

Community Dinners: Julie Volckens

Trip Tracker: Jennifer Saal

**District and Community Representatives:**

David Gould— DPC

Jamie Baker — DAC

Melissa Geller Sharman – SAC

Darcy Fan – BVGT

**Volunteering Opportunities:**

- Contribute dishes/money to parent/teacher conference dinners on 10/20 and 25. Persia has a sign up genius page set up  
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4baba822a5f94-fall2>
- Magic Phoenix (another co-chair, volunteers)- collect MP donations and sell discounted spirit wear at conferences on 10/20 and 25
- Magic Phoenix - help collect donations last week of October at drop off and pick up every day. Help us hand out food/prizes to those who drop off envelopes. Collect spare change.
- Grocery/OZO Cards (probably 1 hour/month from home)
- School Store (coordinator, volunteers to work the store)
- Winter Social (chair, January volunteers)
- PEN representative (Parent Engagement Network)
- Website (probably 1-2 hr/month, volunteer from home)

**Other Comments or Questions –open time for anyone**

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 1 – 31

Magic Phoenix Fundraiser

Oct. 20 & 25

Parent Teacher Conferences

### Community Dinners

October – OPEN

November 7 – Next Door (5-9pm) – 50% of proceeds

November 30 & December 1 – California Pizza Kitchen 11 - 9 pm.

January – Mount Everest in Meadows Shopping Center (Sunday lunch buffet for MMS only)

Next scheduled PTO meeting: TBD

## **Committee Reports**

### **Garden**

Had a great summer garden, we grew snap peas, lettuces, basil, tomatoes, beans, beets, cabbage, carrots, zucchini and pumpkins. In the spring we paid to have the drip system redone so that the lines better fit the new configuration of the 6 raised beds. I have done some minor repairs to the drip system over the summer. We lost our two 'champion' teachers for the garden when Mr. Feeney and Mrs. Greene left. I have been working with DT this fall to continue to get students involved in the garden. He had students harvest basil and make pesto in class...and I brought in some zucchini bread made from some zucchini from the garden. He might also be harvesting some beets and roasting them with the students. Mrs. Kuczynski will be harvesting some gourds and pumpkins to use for a still-life sketching project in her art class.

Would like to make the garden available to more teachers and students. Would like input on how best to do this. Would also like to do a bulletin board if there is room in the school somewhere to do a "What's Growing in the Garden" board. Thought this would be a good way to publicize the garden to students, parents and visitors.

I need to reach out to garden volunteers for future projects and to take over for me next year. Will try to send out an email to the list of volunteers I have thus far prior to the meeting.

### **Trip Tracker**

The trip tracker program is struggling. At Manhattan, we have 295 enrolled in the Trip Tracker program. We had 82 students fill out surveys this month or 28%, we should be at

50%. That is down 6 students from the last reporting period and 58 students from this time last year. This is a great program that requires little support from the parents or guardians other than a one time registration process by the parent or guardian. The kids can do the rest. This program not only helps the environment by reducing our carbon footprint but, it gets the kids start or end off their school day in a positive way.

### **Projects Committee**

- Keystone Outdoor Ed - Helped Julie Chang with paperwork, money accounting/counting, and coffee distribution for sixth grade trip
- Miss Brindle - Labeled and organized chrome cart for LA classes - Donna Axel/Shannon Collier
- Miss Armbruster - long term art installation project using textile art pieces from NYC trip and making a "quilt" - Missy Gellar/Kim Franco/Shannon Collier
- Miss Brindle - created file folders for each student - filing her students' work before conferences - Shannon Collier