

**General PA Meeting  
December 1, 2014, 7pm**

Treasurer is not available tonight, but Amy Carr offered to show the report to anyone interested.

Ms. O'Mara announced that the School Quality Review of MS/HS 141 will take place on Wednesday, December 3, 2014. She then introduced Assistant Principal Tom Sullivan.

Mr. Sullivan welcomed attendees and introduced his topic, a Parent Information Session on the ELA Common Core (CCLS).

Mr. Sullivan distributed his agenda as well as two informational brochures - the Parent Roadmap (Engage New York) and Parents' Guide to Student Success (National PTA). Attendees reviewed the documents and critiqued them in small groups. Some felt that the documents were condescending. Some expressed concern that their children no longer enjoy reading and some have seen a decline in writing skills.

Mr. Sullivan put forth that teachers feel that NYC Performance Assessment in ELA is a good test.

Many parents in attendance expressed concerns about Common Core, particularly regarding reading for enjoyment and limitations regarding research papers. Mr. Sullivan offered that the new librarian Ms. Loving could get involved in research assignments.

Many expressed concern over the thin nature of the summer assignments. Suggestion that students do more reading in the summer, and an active discussion about meaningful summer assignments ensued.

Perhaps we can have a "suggested summer reading" list that Ms. Loving could create. All agreed that we should continue discussing this at another meeting and invite Ms. Loving as well.

Mr. Sullivan suggests that we have a task force meeting for those interested in discussing the summer assignments.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15.