

*P.S. 139Q
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*Monica Powers-Meade
Principal*

*Stephanie Lazarus
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From the Desk of the Principal

Dear Parents,

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for attending the Parent-Teacher Conferences scheduled for Thursday, November 13, 2014. For the afternoon conferences, the attendance shows that 382 parents participated in conferences. For the evening session, 419 parents attended meetings. A grand total of 801 parents and guardians entered our building to engage in deep conversations with classroom teachers, cluster teachers and providers. This speaks to your commitment and high expectations.

Please keep in mind that Tuesday afternoons is another dedicated time for you to schedule appointments to see teachers from 2:20 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. However, I know my teachers are also in contact with you through emails and telephone calls in an effort to increase communication.

Our goal is continuous improvement in the academic subjects aligned to the Common Core Learning Standards. We want our students making gains in literacy by articulating opinions and citing evidence and reasons gleaned from the four corners of the text. My teachers are planning thoughtful lessons embedded with higher level questions to strengthen students' thinking by justifying their reasoning.

We are growing a Garden of Readers at PS 139. The best predictor of reading achievement is the amount of time students read on their own. To that end, we have recently purchased through New York State funding the myON virtual library for your child to access 24/7 at home or school. It is the world's largest interactive digital library with over 7,000 literary and informational books geared for Kindergarten through Grade 5 students. It is available on desktops, laptops, tablets, or any other mobile device. myON knows students individually and their reading levels and interests. It is able to suggest other books the child might like.

Reading contests and incentives are built into the system as students increase their text complexity and advance reading levels. Won't you please take advantage of this meaningful opportunity to get your child engaged with reading? Please log on to <http://www.myon.com>.

There are so many wonderful enrichment activities taking place at PS 139. This year, we are proud to expand our 5th grade students' interest in financial literacy through the simulated Stock Market Game. Student teams research various companies and purchase "make believe" stock based on performance. As a result of this activity, our students improve their decision-making skills and leverage logic and math aptitude in a fun way.

On another note, please save the date, Monday, December 22, for PS 139's talented Glee Club presentation of "Hear the Music." Nothing ushers in the holidays more than the angelic voices of our Glee Club students. Mrs. Lena Samo, our outstanding music teacher, will be directing this gala performance.

Finally, I value our on-going conversations and feedback as we strive to make PS 139 a school of excellence. My staff and I are committed to the whole child.

I am humbled to serve you and your children. There is no place like PS 139!

Respectfully,

Monica Powers-Meade
Principal