



**PARENTS' ASSOCIATION OF
THE BRONX HIGH SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
General Meeting
March 17, 2015**

- 1. Call to Order:** Co-President Patrick Gibbons commenced tonight's meeting at 7:10 PM. He welcomed everyone.
- 2. Approval of the February, 2015 Minutes:** Parents were in consensus regarding the minutes. The minutes were approved and adopted.
- 3. President's Report:**
 - a. Annual appeal:** Mr. Gibbons reported on general contribution characteristics. He noted that more than 25% of the families contribute to the annual appeal. The goal is 100 % family participation regardless of the amount of the contribution.
 - b. Beautifying Bronx Science Project:** Ms. Dubin reported that the School Administration, Student Government and Executive Board have established a committee to address this issue. The Goals of the committee are as follows:
 - Improve Outdoor aesthetics
 - Create a Positive First Impression of the Physical Setting
 - Provide for Positive BxHSS name Branding.There are three areas for improvements: front plaza, building perimeter and student courtyard. The committee is seeking a landscape architect to volunteer.
 - c. Auction Update:** Co-Chair Liz-Bruder-Frydman reported on the status of the Auction. Event planning schedule is on par with last year's event. Donation forms will be distributed at the upcoming open house. Everything will be posted onto the website. Hard copy invitations will be mailed out. However, tickets must be purchased on line. Volunteers are needed to assist with the auction.

4. Treasurer's Report: Assistant Treasurer Elizabeth Newberry reported on the status of the budget. She noted that the PA has raised approximately \$201,000 of the targeted \$205,500 to date. She announced that expenses were moving slowly as is typical at this point during the budget year. Currently, the PA has spent approximately \$126,000 of the budgeted \$172,865 to date.

5. Upcoming Events:

- a. **Accepted Students Night:** Mr. Gibbons announced that this event is Wednesday, March 18th beginning at 5pm.
- b. **SLT Meeting:** Mr. Gibbons announced that the next meeting is Wednesday, 3/24 at 3:45pm.
- c. **Parent/Teacher Conferences:** M. Gibbons announced that the PTCs are on Thursday evening, March 26th from 6pm to 8:30pm and on Friday afternoon, March 27th, 12:30pm to 2:30pm
- d. **Quality Review:** Mr. Gibbons reported that the BxHSS Quality Review would be on Wednesday March 25th.

6. Featured Presentation: Dave Marcus, "Seven Secrets of College Admission:" Mr. Marcus is the author of "ACCEPTANCE: A Legendary Guidance Counselor Helps Seven Kids Find the Right College - and Find Themselves". Mr. Marcus provided an extensive presentation regarding smart strategies for applying to the right college, dealing with the unexpected, and thriving during the admissions process.

Mr. Marcus and the PA membership had an extensive Q & A session.

7. Nominating Committee: Mr. Gibbons noted that there are several parents "graduating out." He reported that all positions are subject to election and all nominees are welcome. Mr. Gibbons noted that a Nominating Committee was needed to recruit potential EB members and prepare for the June election. Shanti Knock and Claire Bienen volunteered to be on the nominating committee. The nominating committee will be voted on by the PA at the April meeting to advance the elections. A slate of candidates will be solicited and announced at the May meeting. The PA election will be at the June meeting.

8. Other Business: Mr. Gibbons reported that the EB is working to update the PA's By Laws. He noted that the draft By Laws will be distributed prior to and also available at the April meeting for discussion. The goal is to vote on the revised By Laws at the May PA meeting.

7. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.