

**PARENTS ASSOCIATION OF  
BRONX HIGH SCHOOL OF SCIENCE  
General Meeting Minutes**

**May 9, 2016**

**1) Call to Order:** Co-President Elizabeth Newberry commenced tonight's meeting at 7:05 pm.

**2) Welcome and Introductions:** Co-President Elizabeth Newberry welcomed the parents and thanked them for coming. Approximately 40 parents were in attendance.

**3) Approval of April 19, 2016 General Meeting Minutes:** Parents were in consensus regarding the minutes. SLT member Barbara Reiser pointed out two typos in the minutes; these will be corrected. The minutes were approved and adopted. Co-President Elizabeth Newberry reminded everyone that the meeting minutes are posted on the PA website and there's a link in the Sunday eblasts; she also reminded everyone that the next meeting is June 2. A parent asked about the timing of the meetings, and Elizabeth Newberry noted that the meetings are held on different days of the week to accommodate different parents' schedules.

**4) Principal's Welcome and Report:** There was no Principal's Report; Dr. Jean Donahue would be giving the State of the School report later in the meeting.

**5) Treasurer's Report and Budget:** Treasurer Heidi Moustakos reported on the current balances, fundraising progress to date, budgeted income, and expenses, and thanked parents for their ongoing support of the Annual Appeal.

Parent question: How much PA funding goes into the musical production?

Elizabeth Newberry answered that there is a line-item in the budget for theater and arts; the funding of the musical falls under that line-item but isn't broken out. A parent said that there is a grant that schools can apply to called ArtsSpace, and suggested that the PA look into applying; grants are up to \$100K. The application needs to be written up by the school. The parent will provide more information.

Parent question: Does the PA support the yearbook?

Elizabeth Newberry answered that the PA gives \$25K/year to senior expenses and some of that goes toward yearbook expenses. We also buy an ad in the yearbook. The parent felt the PA could do more to support the yearbook.

Elizabeth Newberry introduced the 2016-2017 budget. She noted that the school store has raised more than usual this year. Adjustments to the budget versus the current year include:

- 1) The PA Executive Board wants to add \$15K to the hospitality budget in order to encourage more parents to come to events. Overall one of the Executive Board's goals is to increase parent involvement. It was disappointing that only 32-33% of parents completed the DOE's Parent Survey—lower than the citywide 40%. A parent suggested a raffle with prizes as a way to increase engagement.
- 2) The PA will commit to spending \$50K, if needed, to improve internet bandwidth at the school.
- 3) The balance of the funds allocated toward technology upgrades, but not spent in the current school year, will be carried over into the 2016-17 budget.

**6) Executive Board Nominations:** Executive Board Corresponding Secretary Heather Gible introduced the members of the Nominating Committee: herself, Anna Schuchmann, Ingrid Devita, and Lixu Chen. All four are parents of graduating seniors and therefore not able to run for election and therefore impartial. Heather explained that this is the official nominating meeting; any parent can make a

nomination at this meeting or at any time up until 11 days before the election meeting on June 2. Parents may nominate themselves or another parent.

Heather Gibble read the lists of nominees for each position; after reading each list she asked three times if there were any nominations. There were no nominations made at the meeting.

**7) State of the School Report:** Dr. Jean Donahue reported that the state of the school is great and that we've had an absolutely fantastic year. She and the APs presented a detailed State of the School.

The meeting ended at 8:30 pm.

DRAFT