



**General Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2014**

- 1. Call to Order:** Co-President Adam Stern commenced tonight's meeting at 7:10 PM.
- 2. Approval of the April, 2014 Minutes:** Parents were in consensus regarding the minutes. The minutes were approved and adopted.
- 3. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Martha Stratis noted that for FY 2014 the Phonathon exceeded its goal and raised \$185,000. Total income to date is 228,087 and expenses are approximately \$179,514 to date. The auction is estimated to have raised \$64,000.
- 4. President's Report:**
 - Nominations:** A request was made for nominations for the upcoming June elections for both SLT and Executive Board members. There were no nominations from the floor. Several nominations have come in by mail and email. Parents were encouraged to nominate themselves and others. For SLT we need all grades to be represented.
 - Request for Volunteers:** Adam Stern asked parents to consider volunteering to handle the following responsibilities: Database Manager, Mailings, Advertising & Promotions, Hospitality, Merchandising. Email the PA Presidents if interested.
 - Expenditures:** The Executive Committee approved the expenditure of \$77,000 to fulfill faculty wish list items. Expenses include Digital bulletin boards, auditorium mics, a high definition projector for the planetarium, cassette players for the Language Dept., equipment for the Engineering Dept. It was unanimously approved to make such expenditures.
- 4. Principal's Report:** Principal Donohue thanks the parents for their donations and volunteer efforts. She introduced the A.Ps and Guidance staff who were in attendance- Ms. Rocchio, Dr. Wheeler, Ms. McHugh, Mr. McGrath and the head of the Alumni Endowment.

Dr. Donohue explained this year's CEP goals as follows: Improve writing in the school, increase number of students graduating with Advance Regents with Honors, Increase communication with parents and students. Additional goals were also added: Improve safety and security and implement a new teacher evaluation system. The goals were all addressed during this year. In the area of instruction some of the goals/actions were as follows: Improve discussion techniques in the classroom, align the curriculum with the Common Core, new classes in the English Dept, more classes in the Engineering Dept., more post-A.P. classes, expanded course offerings and increase A.P. sections, Technology Goals- Redesign the website, Facebook page, Twitter Feed, online submission of raves and recommendations through Naviance. Physical Plant goals- refurbish computer labs and install A/C in the Planetarium.

5. Reports by Assistant Principals:

-Dr. Wheeler, Science Dept, explained the basics of the Research Program. The results of various science competitions were extremely strong including 8 Intel Semi-Finalists, 9 Sigma Xi Showcase Awards, NYCEF Finalists and Semi-Finalists, and others. A student experiment went to the International Space Station. More outside speakers were brought in to speak to students including Dr. Lefkowitz '59 the 2012 Nobel prize winner in Chemistry and Dr. Yancopolous '76 from Regeneron.

- Ms. McHugh, Guidance Dept., explained there were over 200 colleges attending the recent College Fair for Juniors. Many other college related events were presented during the school year including Winter College Night, Scholar Athlete Night, Financial Aid/College night and Fall College Night. College acceptances were very strong this year. Information will be updated on Naviance to reflect this year's results. A recent trend is that more students are applying to at least one school early. The average number of college applications is 9.

-Mr. McGrath, Athletic Dept., explained that the school now has 43 sports teams- more than any school other than Tottenville. Over 700 students compete in the PSAL program. The school opened a new Wellness Center this year – a strength and fitness center- open to students during the day and after school. 5 new teams were added this year.

-Bronx Science Endowment- Eleanor Coufos '99 spoke on the Endowment which is the primary vehicle for Alumni gifts. The endowment and its funding priorities is donor driven. Upcoming projects include: renovation of the greenhouse, a permanent fund to support the Speech and Debate Team, support for the Holocaust Museum, conversion of shop rooms to STEM rooms. There is fund raising continuing to upgrade facilities but also much focus on faculty development. The endowment is searching for a sponsor for the female robotics team. There will be continued renovation of the Biology facilities to provide more research capabilities and space for Applied Science. She asked parents to help by providing corporate and foundation contacts if they have them.

6. Adjournment

The PA meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.