

**PARENTS' ASSOCIATION OF
THE BRONX HIGH SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
General Meeting Minutes – DRAFT
September 26, 2017**

1) Call to Order: Co-President Monica Toriello commenced the meeting at 7:06 pm. Approximately 214 parents were in attendance.

2) Principal's Report: Principal Jean Donahue welcomed parents to an exciting new school year and said that it is off to a good start. Record numbers of students are enrolled in AP Calculus, AP Computer Science, and AP Language and Composition; the school has expanded its Sophomore Guidance program; and there is now a social worker on staff. This year will be Bronx Science's 80th anniversary, and the school looks forward to welcoming many prominent alumni back to campus this year.

3) Introduction of PA sponsors: The sponsors in attendance introduced themselves and gave a brief overview of their tutoring and test prep services.

4) Introduction of the Executive Board: Co-President Monica Toriello asked the members of the Executive Board to stand and introduce themselves.

5) Approval of June 12, 2017 Meeting Minutes: The minutes were unanimously approved. Co-President Monica Toriello reminded everyone that meeting minutes are posted on the PA website.

6) Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Lisa Donohoe reviewed the income and expenses to date. Parent donations to date have totaled approximately \$22,000.

7) Budget Amendment Vote: Co-President Monica Toriello briefly reviewed the proposal to enhance Internet access at Bronx Science by creating a dedicated circuit for the school that will provide 5 times the current bandwidth. This plan, already approved by the Executive Board, requires drawing \$70,000 from the PA budget surplus. Co-President Toriello answered questions about the percentage of the surplus that this represents (just under 20%) and the time frame for the upgrade (optimistically, the circuit will be operative in November, more likely December).

The amendment was unanimously approved.

8) SLT report. SLT representative Suzanne Plossl explained the role and composition of the School Leadership Team. The SLT is composed of teachers/staff, administrators, parents and 2 elected students. It meets monthly to develop the school's Comprehensive Educational Plan (CEP) and measure whether the goals that it has set have been achieved.

9) SLT Election: Irene Chang was elected unopposed for a 2-year term on the SLT.

10) SLT and PA Board nominations: Nominations were taken for the freshman representatives to the SLT (1 seat) and PA Board (3 seats). Nominations were closed at the end of the meeting.

The election will be held at the October 18 meeting.

Full list of Nominees:

PA Executive Board Member-at-Large Candidates: Rebecca Barreras, Lisa Brody, Jodi Caplan, Aimee Felton Freedman, Nicole Kaplan, Diana Lin Wu, Archana Saha, Kacy Yuan

SLT Parent Member Candidates: Jonathan Freedman, John Keller, Jean Lee, Junnie Mark-Kobashi, Catherine Park, Ellen Schorr

(Update: Diana Lin Wu and Kacy Yuan later withdrew their candidacies.)

11) Announcement of the October 18 PA meeting speaker: Sara Harberson, a college adviser and former admissions officer at UPenn, will discuss trends in and concerns about college admissions.

12) Adjournment: Co-president Monica Toriello adjourned the general meeting at approximately 7:30 pm. Mr Nasser from the Guidance Office facilitated break-out sessions for parents from each grade on what to expect during the year ahead.

The next PA meeting will be on October 18, 2017.

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