PARENTS' ASSOCIATION OF THE BRONX HIGH SCHOOL OF SCIENCE General Meeting Minutes – (Draft) February 11, 2019

1) Call to Order:

Co-President Lisa Brody commenced the meeting at 7:00pm. Approximately 145 parents were in attendance.

2) Principal's Report:

Principal Donahue announced the beginning of the 2019-20 course selection process. This year the Talos platform will replace Naviance. The new course guide has been posted. Students are being encouraged not to overload their schedules with AP courses and to have a lunch period. Elective Day, when students can talk to teachers and current students about potential electives, will be held on March 4. New electives are being offered next year in post-AP level in math and biology.

The Sophomore college kick-off event was held last week. The goal of beginning the college search in sophomore year is to give parents an overview of the process and reduce anxiety, especially in light of the increase in early decision applications.

The school has had good news in sports: the badminton and table tennis teams are the city champions.

School spirit activities are being planned for Valentine's Day.

Parents are urged to fill out the new school survey.

3) Introduction of Meeting Sponsors:

The meeting sponsors briefly presented their services.

4) Approval of the 1-17-19 Meeting Minutes:

The minutes were unanimously approved.

5) Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Lisa Donohoe reported that the PA is close to meeting the goal of the 2018-19 annual appeal and reminded parents that there are three more big fundraising events coming up.

Recent expenditures have included textbooks for electives that are not funded by the DOE, the online edition of the Science Survey, and technology upgrades.

6) The SLT Report, presented by co-president Rebecca Barreras:

At its last meeting, the School Leadership Team continued its examination of the School Quality Guide. The DOE has issued a new school survey that parents are strongly encouraged to complete.

7) Nominations Committee:

The Nominations Committee for elections of the 2019-20 PA Board and SLT has been formed. If anyone else is interested in serving on this committee, they should contact president@bxscience.org. Member of the Nominating Committee must be parents of seniors or parents not interested in running for any of the open PA/SLT positions. The election will be held on June 12, 2019 at the General PA Meeting.

8) Vote to Name New Research Center for Donor:

Bronx Science Alumnus Stanley Manne of the class of '52 is announcing a major gift to create the "Stanley Manne '52 Center for Advanced Research and Inquiry" at the school, which would include new, updated lab space at the school as well as new opportunities for student research.

In order to set the process of naming the center in his honor in motion, the DOE requires a vote by the Parent Association. This vote is a preliminary step; the final naming of a space is contingent on the gift being finalized and the vetting of the donor.

The vote was recorded as followed:

In favor: 132 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

9) Update on Upcoming Fundraisers:

Three fun and important fundraising events will be held in coming weeks. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend.

February 26: Comedy Night at the Gotham Comedy Club (for parents and adult friends/family only). Tickets are currently on sale: a link can be found in the last PA e-blast and on the PA website. There is a VIP ticket open bar option. The evening will include a silent auction.

April 12: Family Yankees Baseball Outing

Tickets recently went on sale: there is a link in the most recent PA e-blast and on the PA website.

May 16: Spring Auction Benefit (for parents and adult friends/family only) Tickets will go on sale in March. The auction committee is currently seeking donations, including food, and volunteers.

10) Course Selection and Parent Panel:

Mr. Andrew Nasser and Dr. Alison Davis spoke about course selection for the coming year. Bronx Science will begin using the Talos course selection program as Naviance has discontinued this service. Students will be able to view preauthorizations for courses with prerequisites on February 27. Elective Day is March 4. Course Registration begins on March 18 and ends on March 28. For an

overview of course selection see: http://www.bxscience.edu/pdf/CourseSelection2019.pdf

A panel of parents whose students went to college this year shared their experiences in Room 131.

11) Adjournment:

Co-president Lisa Brody adjourned the general meeting at 8:35 pm.

The next PA meeting will be on 3-7-19