Parents' Association of The Bronx High School of Science General Membership Meeting 13 December 2022, 7:00 p.m. HYBRID

Christine Kattan, PA Co-President, called the meeting to order at 7:06.

Michelle Byron motioned to approve the 15 November 2022 EB meeting minutes; Cliff Stanton seconded; the minutes were approved.

Christine Kattan thanked Principal Hoyle for all her outreach efforts and encouraged people to come to Coffee with the Principal.

Principal's Report: Principal Hoyle said we are ⅓ of the way through the school year. The SO Cabinet has a "12 Days of Coping" initiative; Early Decision results are due in any day; the school play was fabulous and the winter concert is next week.

Featured speaker, Eleanor Coufos, is the president of the BxSci Alumni Foundation and is a member of the class of '99. The Alumni Foundation is a 501(c)3 that raises money for the school. These funds are flexible and essentially double or triple the school's discretionary budget. The money provides support for clubs, etc., but also provides financial aid to students. Examples of Alumni Foundation activities:
1) The Alumni Foundation provides various summer experiences for students. The Brunner Awards offer a stipend for a student experience/project that is limited only by the student's imagination. Applicants must be responsible and mature;
2) Atom Link is the BxSci "LinkedIn" only for students and student-driven;
3) Summer Institutes are free, full-commitment programs that are at the same time as summer school, so students have to choose. There is a programming academy that is self-paced and fully remote; an engineering program in which students design a physical product/project; an entrepreneurship program;an arts institute in which students go all over NYC to museums, shows, restaurants, etc; science research that this year will inaugurate the Manne Institute. Look for applications in the spring;
4) The Manne Institute has 3 labs, as well as other rooms. It focuses on biology and chemistry. The C of O will be ready in the new year;
5) Project Accepted is held in the fall and helps seniors practice their interviewing skills with alums

Treasurer's Report: In Kai Lu's absence, Elizabeth Polkovitz presented a slide reporting income of $175,652 as of 30 November. She reminded parents/guardians that each taxpayer can deduct $300/year for donations.

Direct Appeal/Fundraising Update: Yan Yu reported that around 450 families have donated.

Spring Gala: Co-chair Gabrielle Koelbel announced this year's gala theme of "Reach for the Stars." The gala will be on 11 May, from 6-9 at Congregation Rodeph Sholom on W. 83rd Street. The gala needs volunteers and donations for the wine pull.

Jennifer Morrissey was announced as the winner of the iPhone14Pro raffle.

SLT Report: Yanjung Wang reported about the student SEL survey of ½ of 9th graders and urges parents/guardians to promote SGI. BxSci is unique in that SGI is stand-alone and does not interfere with after-school activities. It is not just for students who are struggling. It is a quiet place to work and a good way to get to know your teachers.

President's Report: Elizabeth Polkovitz thanked those who went to the District 10 Town Hall with the Superintendent. D10 has the most refugee families in the Bronx. In January there will be a distribution of much-needed items for which we will need volunteers. Elizabeth will attend the Citywide Council for High School meeting on 14 December. There are proposed changes to the formula for Fair Student Funding. Elizabeth will give an update in January. She is working with other SHS PA president's, as well as other Bronx schools. The PEP is going from 13 to 23 members. The new members will be from all 5 boroughs, 1 elected and appointed by each BP. IF funding cuts are made it is unclear how that will affect BxSci. School club advisor payments may well be slashed. We may lose from 3.1-5 million from the budget.

The next meeting is Wednesday, January 11 at 7:00 pm and REMOTE only.

Christine Kattan adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.