

**Parents' Association of The Bronx High School of Science Executive Board Meeting
15 March, 2023, 5:45 p.m. REMOTE**

Members attending (16): Co-Presidents Christine Kattan, Jayesh Patel, Elizabeth Polkovitz; Co-Vice Presidents Jennifer Allen-Cheng and Yan Yu; Assistant Treasurers Ram Halder and Li Ping Xu; Co-Recording Secretary Katia Kubicek (taking minutes); Members-at-Large Ellen Goldberg, Xia (Lisa) Li, Abhilasha Mahan, Novelle Maxwell-Sinclair, Helen Qiu, Paul Sinclair, Amy Xue, Mimi Yee; **Not attending (4):** Treasurer Kai Lu; Corresponding Secretary Dongli Huang; Co-Recording Secretaries Sheila Drumm and Dorie Lederfajn Paparo.

Christine Kattan called the meeting to order at 5:46 p.m.

Ram made a motion to approve the 11 January meeting minutes. Jayesh seconded. The minutes were approved. Paul made a motion to approve the 15 February meeting minutes. Novelle seconded. These minutes were also approved.

President's Report:

1) **Elizabeth** provided an update on Fair Student Funding. The Specialized High School PA presidents wrote a letter thanking the Mayor and the Chancellor for proposing full funding without cuts. The proposal will go out in about a week; the vote will be at the April PEP meeting. There is no indication it won't be approved;
2) She also reported that the NYC School Survey deadline is March 31. Not a great response rate so far. Goals are used by the SLT to set goals;
3) In addition, Superintendent Fia Davis will host a Town Hall on 30 March. The district goal is 500 families attending— 20 per school. Please comment in chat that you are from BxSci;4) **Christine** gave the election update. The slate looks good; we are missing only a few MAL. Most positions run as a slate. We still need 3 new SLT members. Please put out the word;5) She also discussed plans for formulating committees and looking for chairs. We need a) a Welcome Committee for freshman families; b) Social, for one-off events: Comedy Night; Yankees, Trans-Siberian orchestra tickets, etc; c) Open House— for which we are looking for 2 co-chairs; d) translation services (not for the newsletter). This would be live translation at PA meetings, which we had at one point;6) **Elizabeth** reports that all is going well on the budget front, but categories will be reviewed in the next month. In April we will vote on reallocations. Some of the technology line may well be moved into classroom support, for example.

Principal's Report: Rachel Hoyle reported that Monday is the Accepted Student Open House; SAT and PSAT will be given next week; Parent-Teacher Conferences are also next week. Summer school and Summer Institute emails have gone out; we don't yet know if the BxSci building will be open, but summer school will definitely be in person. Research students are having a lot of success; there are 42 National Merit finalists; the girls indoor track won the City Championship. Please fill out the school survey! Our current response rate is 15%; Elizabeth asked to whom students who have questions about Summer Institutes should address them.

Rachel said to just apply and be sure to rank alternate course choices.

Treasurer's Report: In Kai's absence, Christine reported revenue is \$306,134; we are 69.1% to our target in revenue. Expenses are budgeted at \$443,00; currently at \$119,809, but many requests come in at the end of the year. We will look at our targets and adjust as needed for next year. Elizabeth said the senior expenses are around \$30,000. Expenses will likely double. This is our first year really back; hospitality costs are up because of inflation. Christine reported on the slide that shows most money comes in in October and December. Expenses are primarily student expenses, Naviance, the website, printing. PA Admin includes hospitality. Our 2/28 bank balance is \$834K. February donations were \$29,704; we are 27% to our budgeted expenses.

The audit committee still needs 3 members from the general parent body and will be brought up at the general meeting. Anyone is welcome to observe.

Fundraising Update: Yan Yu said we have reached our direct appeal goal of \$300,000! We have collected about \$301,000.

Other Business: Jayesh attended the safety meeting. Parents have complained that students' belongings are stolen outside the building. Please remind students to put valuables in their lockers. The raffle drawing will be at the general meeting. Ellen asked about the possible plan to create a garden with the surplus in the PA account. Elizabeth said we need someone to take on the special project; it will likely be discussed next year. We need a year's money in reserve, but want to spend the rest. This will be on next month's agenda. The 3/20 Open House is in good shape. Tamice and Citibus are providing courtesy buses. CCHS Forum, Wednesday, March 22, 6 PM. 2 BxSci parents are running, but there is a one rep per school rule. In April Elizabeth will explain how the voting works. Save the Date: Yankees Game 23 May, Spring Gala on 11 May, Ellington in the Park on 10 June.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 19 April at 5:45 p.m. HYBRID.

Christine adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.