

**Parents' Association of The Bronx High School of Science
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Feb 13, 2024 at 7:00 PM**

Call to Order at 7:05 p.m.

The meeting was held via Zoom due to the snowstorm. About 200 people attended the General Meeting.

Approved 1/17/24 meeting minutes.

New Business

1) Principal's Report - Rachel Hoyle

Principal Hoyle shared the following:

- We finished mid-year exams. They went smoothly, and the students did well. We have tried to reduce the number of exams where possible, but we feel it is important in some cases for students to take an exam that covers all the material taught to date. These also help the department see where there are gaps by class and by student.
- The third marking period is now done, and we are into the 4th marking period.
- Semester courses have switched over for those who took semester long courses.
- There have been several celebrations:
 - 4 students won the National Congressional App Award. Three students from Queens and one student from the Bronx won awards. Congressman Richie Torres helped celebrate.
 - 2 students are Regeneron finalists, and they are going to D.C.
 - We hosted the Science Olympiad New York City North Regional Tournament. The Bronx Science team won first-place. They will now advance to the states competition.
 - This past weekend, we celebrated Black History Month. We had alumni join a celebration at the school.
- Next week is mid-winter break.
- After mid-winter break:
 - 2024 AtomHacks Hackathon- Saturday, March 2nd from 8 AM to 8 PM at Bronx Science. Students with coding experience come and create apps with support from mentors and class teachers.
 - Winter College Night for juniors and seniors. We will have representatives from Princeton, Vanderbilt and U Michigan. They will discuss how to navigate the college admissions process.
- The NYC Public Schools Survey
 - Please complete the survey. Last year 34% of parents completed the survey. It reflects our engagement and provides useful information. If you cannot answer a particular question, then skip it and complete the rest.
 - Students also complete it. We are going to have a competition by grade to see which grade has the largest rate of completion.
 - The unique code for parents is: f [student OSIS #]

2) Nominating Committee Election

The Nominating Committee is responsible for running free and fair elections of the Board and SLT. There is an uncontested slate for the Nominating Committee. The slate is:

Elaine Cipriano
Ellie Rabinowitz
Allison Rogovin
Jodi Solomon
Lucy Yang

A poll was run, and the Nominating Committee was voted on and approved. We will hear from the Nominating Committee on how to run for positions on the Board and the SLT

3) SLT Report

Christine Nuzum discussed the School Leadership Team. It is composed of teachers, students, parents/caregivers and the Principal. They discuss goals and priorities for the school as well as strategies to meet these goals. They meet one afternoon per month. Elections for the SLT will be held in the Spring. We encourage people to run. There will be one opening at the election this Spring. It is a 2-year commitment.

4) Treasurer's Report – Kai Lu

Kai Lu gave the Treasurer's report. Per the report submitted by Kai, as of the end of January 2024, we have raised approximately \$302,832 through fundraising. This money comes from donations through the annual appeal, corporate matching funds, comedy night, interest income on the account, and merchandise sales. Expenses to date are at approximately \$198,592 so far. Expenses to date have been for the following: \$31,806 for PA administration, \$80,288 on student expenses and approximately \$86,498 in school expenses. Expenses will start to pick up from now to the end of the year. We submitted an interim financial report to the DOE which shows from July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, the beginning balance, amount raised, amount spent and end of year balance. We have over \$950K in the bank as of January 31, 2024.

5) Fundraising – Yan Yu

Yan Yu gave the Fundraising Report. We are still asking for donations from each family. We are close to our annual goal of \$300K from donations. So far, we have received \$244,675 in donations from parents. When you add to this company matches, we are at about \$290K for donations. Last year, we exceeded our goal by a large amount. Last week was Lunar New Year and tomorrow is Valentine's Day, so use any holiday or celebration as a reason to make a donation and show your love for the school. Your name will appear on the donor wall, no matter how much you donate. There are four ways to make donations: (1) by text, (2) go to the Bronx Science PA website, (3) by regular mail, and (4) ask your employer to match your gift. When you add up the parent donations, corporate matches, the money received from merchandise sales, comedy night, and interest income, we are at a total of \$302,832.

6) Spring Gala Update – Gabrielle Kolbel

Gabrielle is the Chair of the Gala Committee. The Gala will be on April 11, 2024 at Temple Emanu-El. The theme is “Rock ‘N Raise.” We need support. For Companies, there are sponsorship opportunities. Sponsorships help your brand. We also accept donations of items for the auction. If you have items to donate for the auction, please contact the Auction Chair, Erin Kromon. Tickets go on sale tomorrow and supply is limited. There is an early bird ticket price of \$125 instead of \$150. Next Wednesday, there will be a short-term on-line auction of summer camp items. We will launch it next week on the auction website. There are a variety of camp options.

7) Co-presidents Report

- Newsletter – if you are interested in working on this, please email the Presidents.
- Tech Team - We are still seeking people to join the Tech Team. These are people who know how to handle AV equipment, run zoom meetings, etc. We will schedule a training session for the members. The goal is to have 4 members who will work in teams of 2 and will be on duty every other month. They have to be able to attend the meetings in person.
- Hospitality Team – We are seeking to build a Hospitality Team so that we can have assigned people do the set up for different events.
- Executive Board – All Executive Board positions are open including the named officers and the Member at Large. The Members at Large are non-office holding members of the Executive Board. We hope to have one Member at Large from each grade.
- SLT – There is one opening on the SLT for next year.
- We request that everyone complete the NYC Public Schools Survey
- Save the Date for the Yankees Game on May 17, 2024. It is a fun night for staff and parents.

8) Other Business

None.

9) Special Presentations:

Course Selection Process: For 9th-11th grade parents/guardians. Presented by Assistant Principals Dr. Allison Davis and Andrew Nasser.

“What I Wish I Knew Before My Kid Went to College”: For our 12th grade families (or anyone interested), Moderated by Cliff Stanton (BxSci class of ‘81). Panelists: former BxSci parents Karen Bischoff- Babich, Ken Ho, Jerome Kramer, Jayesh Patel, and Jean Lee Yamner.

Important Upcoming Events/Dates

Coffee With the Principal, Thursday, Feb 15 at 8:30 AM

March PA Meeting: Wednesday, March 13 at 7:00 PM
