

**Parents' Association of The Bronx High School of Science
General Membership Meeting Agenda
June 12, 2024 at 7:00 PM**

Call to Order

Co-President Jennifer Allen-Cheng called the meeting to order at 7:02. Ms. Allen-Cheng thanked outgoing PA Co-Presidents Christine Kattan and Elizabeth Polkovitz for their outstanding service, and welcomed incoming co-presidents Arthur Wong and Xia (Lisa) Li.

Approve 5/15/24 meeting minutes

Motion was made by Katia Kubicek, and seconded by Christine Kattan. The motion was approved with no one opposed.

New Business

1) Principal's Report - Principal Rachel Hoyle

Principal Hoyle reported that June is the month of celebration; the school has had spring carnival, the spring musical and concerts, and end of year sports and senior awards. Also coming up is the senior bbq, prom and graduation on June 26. Principal Hoyle thanked outgoing Co-Presidents Elizabeth Polkovitz and Christine Kattan for their service and thanked senior parents for showing up from day one. We are looking forward to Regents exams and finishing the year.

2) Treasurer's Report- Kai Lu

Ms. Polkovitz gave the Treasurer's report, noting that we are currently at 103% of target, with \$455,755 raised and a surplus from last year of \$88,467. She reminded the PA that our fundraising model is to raise money in the current year for spending in the next, and that we are lucky to be able to fund operations in advance.

While current spending is at \$304k, Ms. Polkovitz stated that additional expenses come due in June and that additional parts of the current revenue are earmarked for long-term projects. The PA currently maintains a bank balance of approximately \$1 million, half of which is for next year's budget, the outdoor project and some other long-term projects that are in early stages.

3) 2024-2025 PA Budget Vote

Ms. Polkovitz presented the preliminary budget for the 2024-25 school year, which she explained is submitted for approval in June in order to allow the PA to pay expenses due in July/August. The budget includes \$300k on annual appeal that goes to students, and projects Gala income @ \$130k which is consistent with prior years. The budget predicts \$10k net in merchandise revenue, \$2k from Comedy Night, and \$71,100 that is a carry forward from reserves for capital projects, and \$10k in interest for total revenues of \$523k.

Expenses: We budget \$523,100. This consists of:

Student-facing expenses:\$90k teams/clubs, \$145k “Bronx Science experience” (spirit events (\$20k), senior expenses (\$60k), NHS (\$11k), student hospitality (\$25k), theater and arts productions (\$10k), planners (\$9k) and other uncaptured expenses (\$10k)).

School budget enhancement expenses of \$190k consisting of: department requests (\$55k), facilities (\$15k), guidance and college office (\$10k), facility upgrade (\$90k), student electronic subscriptions (\$20k).

Technology (\$47k): this will likely be reduced due to DOE now paying for internet but also includes internet, printers and repairs, etc.

By motion made by Jamileh diGuida and seconded by Arthur Wong, the budget was unanimously approved.

4) Audit Committee Report- Paul Goldfarb

Ms. Polkovitz thanked the Audit committee, chaired by Paul Goldfarb, who presented the audit report.

Mr. Goldfarb reported that on May 20, 2024 the committee conducted the audit for FY 23-24. Committee members: [fill in he read quickly]

Mr. Goldfarb explained that the Audit Committee worked with Co-Presidents and Treasurers. The Audit followed standard procedures including reviewing processes, looking at revenue and expenses. The committee identified areas of strength and noted opportunities for process enhancement. They submitted a final report today to the PA Board, in which they concluded that the PA financials are accurate and sound financial processes in place. Detailed findings and recommendations are available for review at PA office and will reinforce the PAs already strong financial management.

5) President Council Designee Vote

Ms. Polkovitz explained that this is a council of over 100 high schools in the Bronx, and that as a PA we can designate a non-president to represent us. Ms. Polkovitz recommended Helen Goldman (who is also a Bronx resident and EB member) to be our representative. Dorie Lederfajn Paparo moved to approve this designation; Ernie Sander seconded. The motion passed with all in favor and none opposed.

6) SLT Report- Yanjun Wang

Yanjun Wang gave the SLT report. At the meeting today, the SLT finalized the CEP plan for the next school year with the following goals: 1) increase the average of Global Regents scores, 2) increase positive response rate for 5 questions on SEL Survey, 3) increase % of 9th grade Discovery students passing all majors, 4) increase # of girls enrolling in high level math, CS and physics, 5) decrease difference in overall grade between IEP and non-IEP students, 6) increase participation in the School Survey. SLT meeting schedule for next school year is now planned; all are welcome to attend.

7) Co-President's Report

Christine Kattan gave the Co-Presidents' Report.

Ms. Kattan identified four current areas of need including: 1) the webmaster team needs 2 members with professional web experience for help over the summer with possible upgrades; 2) the newsletter team needs 1-2 members for next year; 3) the Nominating committee needs 2-3 members to facilitate and run the fall and spring PA/SLT elections; and 4) the hospitality team needs 2-3 co-chairs and additional members.

Year in Review: This year, the PA consisted of 20 Board members, 6 SLT members, 15 committees (with 80+ members), and countless event volunteers! We have supported 17 school or foundation events, 3 faculty/staff events, 11 special presentations, and raised \$455k to support the school.

Christine recognized outgoing chairs and committee members, staff and administrators:

Hospitality chair: Lilach Bar

Newsletter Team: Roxana Cheng

Nominating Committee Chair: Allison Rogovin

NomCom Members: Elaine Cipriano, Lucy Yang

Outgoing Exec Board members:

Co Presidents: Elizabeth and Christine

Co VP (Fundraising) Yan Yu

Treasurer: Kai Lu

Assistant Treasurer/MAL Ram Holder

Co Recording Secretary/Bylaws: Katia Kubicek

Co Recording Secretary: Jennifer Courtian

MAL/Co Recording Secretary/Webmaster: Dorie Paparo

MAL: Maggie Gao

MAL/Bylaws Committee: Paul Sinclair

Tech Support: Abe, Brandon and Willie

Custodial Team: Angel, Danny, Debbie, Hector,, Justin, Kiran, Miguel

School Safety: Officers Fernandez, Mendez and White.

School Aides: Ray and Steve

Principal Rachel Hoyle

AP Andrew Nassar

AP Phoebe Cooper

Ms. Rebecca. Barreras, Parent Coordinator

Ms. Eleanor Coufos, President of Bronx Science Foundation

Congratulations to Phoebe Cooper who is retiring after 33 years of service.

Please join us at the end of the year celebration at Ellington in the Park!

8) Special Presentation: Life after BxSci- Graduate Panel and AP Andrew Nasser

AP Nasser introduced a panel of Bronx Science recent graduates, who are currently attending Carleton College, Columbia University, Cornell University, and Georgetown University. Alums answered pre-screened questions about their experiences researching and applying to colleges, sense of preparedness for college, their and their parents' experience with their transition, and their experience with roommates.

9) Other Business

Elizabeth Polkovitz and Christine Kattan thanked the Bronx Science community, shared fond memories and said goodbye.

Ms. Kattan adjourned the meeting at 8:54 pm.
