

Parents' Association of The Bronx High School of Science
Virtual General Meeting
13 February 2025, 7 p.m.

Ms. Allen-Cheng called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

Gabrielle Koelbel moved to approve the January 16, 2025, 2024 PA minutes. Aaron Hawn seconded. A poll was run and the minutes were approved.

1) Principal's Report - Rachel Hoyle

Ms. Hoyle reported that midyears have ended and we are headed to break. BxSci students participated in the Science Olympiad regionals and student teams placed first, second and fourth, they are heading to states soon.

Clips from the faculty talent show can be seen on Wolverine TV; rehearsals are currently underway for the spring musical. Last night was Winter College Night with representatives from UMich, UChicago, Vanderbilt. Cupids Bash will be held in the cafeteria during lunch tomorrow. The course selection fair will be held on the first day back from break; students can learn about classes and ask questions. The week after the course selection fair students can apply for classes for which they were not pre-approved.

2) SLT Report - Stacy Keller

Ms. Keller reported that the SLT met Feb. 11 to discuss midpoint goals of CEP, including goal 3 (re: improving the performance of Discovery students) and goal 6 (reducing the gap between the GPA of IEP and Gen Ed students and increasing female identifying participation in upper level STEM classes). At the course selection fair students will hear there will be two groupings of AP Computer Science that are the same but with one geared toward students with no background in CS which may increase female participation.

Ms. Keller also stated that BxSci is currently the lowest performing SHS for filling out the school survey (35%). She urged all parents to complete the survey; there will be a raffle for gift cards if we get to 40%. A link to the survey was put in the chat.

3) Treasurer's Report - Julie Chin-Tom

Ms. Chin-Tom gave the Treasurer's Report. She reminded the PA that an amendment was approved at the last meeting. The PA is currently at revenue of \$407,0450 (of which \$123,100 is from reserves) against an annual budget of \$575k (as per the budget amendment). Expenses are budgeted at \$575k, of which actual expenses to date are \$207,958. As of the end of January, the bank balance is \$1,064,938. We try to keep PA expenses under 10%.

Ms. Chin-Tom presented a bank balance analysis to explain our cash balance. We have \$1,064,00 of which we have expenses of \$367,042, \$284,045 reserved for next year and \$413k in reserve funds.

4) Fundraising - Arthur Wong

Mr. Wong reported on the status of the Annual Appeal. As of January 31, 2025 we have raised \$254,164 which is 84.7% of the goal. The recommended donation is \$750 per student but please donate whatever amount is meaningful to you. Donations can be made by text, mail or the PA website (bxsciencepa.org). Ask your employer if they will match the gift.

5) Community Affairs - Helen Goldman

Ms. Goldman reminded the PA that the Presidents Council is in the process of hiring a new superintendent. The process is ongoing and included a Town Hall last month. We expect an announcement later this month.

In addition, the community and citywide council elections are ongoing. Anyone interested in shaping policies and priorities should consider joining; online applications are due Feb. 16. A link for information was circulated in the chat and parents were encouraged to apply and participate.

6) Gala Update - Gabrielle Koelbel

Ms. Koelbel reported that tickets are on sale now at an early bird discount through March 10, 2025. Ms. Koelbel also reminded parents that an online auction is currently ongoing for summer camp opportunities. This auction is not limited to the Bronx Science community so please circulate to friends with younger kids. The auction ends tomorrow.

The Gala committee is soliciting donations for auction items and sponsorships. If you have connections to sponsors, or to potential gift cards/items or experiences like tours, please let them know. Sponsors can participate at a range of levels from \$250-10k.

Ms. Koelbel drew the winner of the winter raffle.

7) Yankee Game Update - Ashok Eastman

Mr. Eastman reminded parents that the 4th Annual Night out (Yankees v. Rays) will be Friday May 2, with discounted tickets available. Best seats are going fast.

8) Co-Presidents Report

Mr. Wong reported that the PA is seeking volunteers for various committees including nominating, tech, and particularly the newsletter. Volunteers for the nominating committee cannot be running for an executive board position.

All Executive Board positions are open. Co President, Co VP, Co-Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Co-Recording Secretaries, Corresponding Secretary, Members at Large.

9) Special Presentations:

Course Selection Process and Science Research Overview, with APs Andrew Nasser and Dr. Allison Davis

“What I Wish I Knew Before My Kid Went To College” BxSci Panel, moderated by Cliff Stanton, BxSci Class of ‘81

Mr. Wong adjourned the meeting at 8:37 pm