



Stuyvesant High School Parents' Association Minutes of the General Meeting of January 18, 2011

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. The Co-Presidents gave all members time to review the minutes of the December 21, 2010 General Membership Meeting. After a brief interval, a motion was made to adopt the minutes of the December meeting. The motion was seconded, voted on and approved.
3. Co-Presidents' announcements:
 - a. The co-presidents reported that PA revenues from fundraising are slightly ahead when compared to the same time period last year. Half of the projected revenues for the 2010/2011 academic year were collected by mid December.
 - b. The co-presidents reported that expenditures for college advisement will be higher this year because the PA is expanding the service to cover approximately 500 families.
 - c. There were some questions from membership regarding appropriations. The co-presidents reported that this will be discussed in detail and voted on later in the meeting.
4. Committee Reports:
 - a. Academic Affairs: The chairperson reported on the proposed changes to graduation requirements, foreign language choices, and tech classes.
 - i. She reported that the SLT recommends an opt-out policy for the fourth year of math be adopted by the Administration. The SLT also recommends more creative math oriented classes to fulfill the fourth year requirement.
 - ii. The requirement for a full year of computer science is still under review by the Administration.
 - iii. Foreign language options are being discussed.
 - iv. The place of hands-on tech classes at the school is still an open discussion at SLT.
 - b. Appropriations: Approval of the Principal's Discretionary Fund was discussed. The proposed fund allots \$20,000 to student needs and \$10,000 for professional development. The membership questioned if the principal is required to report how the money is used. The co-presidents responded that he is required to report how the funds are used.
 - i. A motion to approve the Principal's Discretionary Fund was made. The motion was seconded, voted on and approved.
 - c. College Committee: The chairperson reported that the committee is working on the format for this year's advisement with the College Office, PA Executive Board, and the Principal. The committee will be publicizing how the College Office can help with the admissions process.
 - i. The committee is seeking volunteers to help with College Night.
 - ii. The co-presidents briefly presented slides of Stuyvesant's recent college tour.
 - d. Spring Feast: The co-presidents reported that the Spring Feast will be held on April 1. They reported that a host of volunteers are needed as well as advertisers, sponsors, and auction/raffle donations. All members were encouraged to attend. Ticket prices are \$65/person or \$600/table.
 - e. Title 1: The chairperson presented recommended action items to fund with \$15,000 of Title 1 funds earmarked for parent involvement outreach. The proposed action items include computer literacy classes for parents;

translation services for PA meetings and college related parent workshops; support for the “Race to Nowhere” screening; and information sessions with Academic Departments.

- i. A motion to approve \$5,855 in funds for the four action items was made. The motion was seconded, voted on and approved.

5. Upcoming Events:

- a. The co-presidents reported that a special screening of the film “Race to Nowhere” will be held in the auditorium on February 8th. The screening will be followed by a discussion about student stress with a panel of experts.
- b. The co-presidents announced an upcoming lecture by Stuy alum and Nobel Prize winning scientist Roald Hoffmann. The lecture will be held on March 12th. The lecture is titled “a little chemistry and more about what I learned from Stuy and 45 years at Cornell.”
- c. The co-presidents reported that the featured speaker at the next general meeting will be Dr. Henry Teidge. He will discuss student research opportunities outside of Stuy.

6. Featured Speaker:

- a. The co-presidents introduced the featured speakers Ms. Linda Weissman, Ms. Megan Breslin, and Dr. Jonathan Gastel.
 - i. Ms. Weissman discussed research opportunities in the social sciences, Ms. Breslin discussed creative writing opportunities, and DR. Gastel discussed science research and mentorship opportunities.

7. Following the presentation, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Bauer, Recording Secretary