



Stuyvesant High School Parents' Association Minutes of the General Meeting of February 15, 2011

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.
2. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. The Co-Presidents gave all members time to review the minutes of the January 18, 2011 General Membership Meeting. After a brief interval, a motion was made to adopt the minutes of the January meeting. The motion was seconded, voted on and approved.
3. Financial Update:
 - a. The treasurer presented an overview of the PA's finances year-to-date through the end of January. It was reported that the PA is operating close to its budget.
 - b. The co-presidents reported that PA revenues from fundraising are on target with projections. Approximately half of anticipated revenue has been collected by the end of January.
 - c. The co-presidents reported that expenditures are slightly lower than expected but noted that big expenses are coming including fees for a financial audit and approximately \$90,000 of wish list (appropriations) items to be approved in coming months.
4. Co-Presidents Report:
 - a. The co-presidents reported on the recent screening of "Race to Nowhere" and the discussion on student stress that followed. The co-presidents encouraged parents to provide feedback on excessive homework and over testing such as multiple exams for the same class in the same week.
 - b. The faculty reception will be held on March 19th. The co-presidents reported that the co-chairs are seeking volunteers to assist. Dessert donations welcome.
 - c. Stuyvesant open house for prospective students will be on February 16th. Parent volunteers are needed to tell prospective parents about Stuy and what it is like.
 - d. Dr. Roald Hoffmann, Stuyvesant '55, will lecture at Stuy in March.
 - e. The co-presidents reported that Stuyvesant assistant principals Ms. Maryann Ferrara and Mr. Scott Thomas will speak at the next general meeting.
 - f. The co-presidents introduced the parent coordinator, Mr. Harvey Blumm.
 - i. Mr. Blumm reiterated the need for more open house volunteers and advised parents that they should let him know if their child is overloaded with homework or excessive testing.
 - ii. Mr. Blumm also noted that the Parent Tools site has been updated. The latest post features information on summer internships and other opportunities.
5. Committee Reports:
 - a. College Committee: The chairperson reported that the date for the College Office presentation to junior parents has been changed to March 7th. The chairperson also reported that the College Office is gearing up for college advisement meetings. Sign-up begins at the end of February. Meetings will start on March 8th.
 - b. Title 1: The co-presidents requested a vote on the Title 1 committee's proposed funding items related to parent involvement. A motion was made to approve funding of computer literacy classes for parents; translation services; viewing of "Race to Nowhere"; college related expenses; information sessions with academic departments; PA Bulletin printing; information session for parents of students with special needs; partial support for parent handbook; and Executive Board discretionary funds for parent involvement expenses. The motion was seconded, voted on and approved.
6. Featured Speakers:

- a. The college committee chair introduced the featured speakers Mr. Jonathan Arak, Dr. Christian Fromm and Dr. Henri Tiedge.
 - i. Master Tutor Jonathan Arak spoke about standardized testing.
 - ii. Dr. Christian Fromm and Dr. Henri Tiedge discussed research mentoring of high school students from an outside expert perspective.
7. Following the presentation, the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Bauer, Recording Secretary