

Stuyvesant High School Parents' Association Minutes of the General Meeting of March 22, 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 February 15, 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. Messages from Co-Presidents:
 - a. The Co-Presidents urged attendees to complete the Stuyvesant High School environmental survey Issued by DOE. The survey is one component used by DOE to grade school performance, so the schools grade is affected by the number of responses received.
 - b. The Co-Presidents reported that a safety meeting will be held on April 25th in accordance with Title 1 funding requirements.
 - c. The Co-Presidents made an appeal to attendees to support the school by purchasing Spring Feast Tickets.
- 4. Academic Assistant Principal Presentations:
 - a. The Chairperson of the Academic Affairs Committee thanked the AP's for attending the meeting.
 - b. The Chairperson introduced Ms. Maryann Ferrara, AP of Mathematics. Ms. Ferrara discussed Stuyvesant's math graduation requirements and course offerings. She presented an overview of math offerings from freshman to senior year including college preview courses offered at NYU and Columbia. She noted that math tutoring is available after school and answered questions from parents in the audience on curriculum, quality and consistency of teaching, etc.
 - c. The Co-Presidents introduced Mr. Scott Thomas, AP of Chemistry and Physics. Mr. Thomas gave a brief presentation on curriculum and course offerings from freshman through senior year. After the presentation, Mr. Thomas answered questions from the parents.
 - d. It was noted that ARISTA, Stuyvesant's Honor Society, offers one-on-one tutoring. Appointments can be scheduled by e-mailing <u>aristatutoring@gmail.com</u>.
- 5. Announcements and Committee Reports:
 - a. Title 1: The Chairperson announced an upcoming workshop on special education services March 30, 2011 at 6:00 PM.
 - b. Appropriations: The Chairperson explained the spring funding requests listed on a handout distributed to membership. It was noted that the appropriations committee requested additional documentation from some school organizations before awarding the funding. Those items are indicated as "pending" and will be funded up to the amount indicated if approved by membership. A motion was made to approve the funding requests. The motion was seconded, voted on and approved.
 - c. Audit Committee: It was reported that three proposals are being considered for a routine DOE required audit of PA finances. The Audit committee is reviewing proposals with a maximum cost of \$6,000. A motion was made to hire an independent auditor for an amount not-to-exceed \$6,000. The motion was seconded, voted on and approved.
 - d. The Co-Presidents reported on PA finances and Stuyvesant High School's budget. It was noted that the PA raises approximately \$330,000 annually through various fundraising activities. The PA uses approximately \$200,000 to \$230,000 to fund school organizations. The remainder is used to pay PA and other school expenses.

- i. It was reported that the school's budget is approximately \$18.5 million including \$1.5 million of Title 1 funds. Approximately \$350,000 of the budget is used to maintain equipment, copiers, and other non-salary expenses. The PA helps fund some of these items.
- e. College Committee: The Chairperson advised parents of Stuyvesant Juniors to sign up for a family college advisement session. She noted that only a few spots remain.

6. Featured Speaker:

- a. The College Committee Chairperson introduced the featured speaker Mr. Michael C. Motto an education consultant and college admissions advisor. Mr. Motto on the college admissions process.
- 7. Following the presentation, the Co-Presidents announced that a nominations committee would be forming soon. The membership was encouraged to send an e-mail to nominations@stuypa.org. The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Bauer, Recording Secretary