



Stuyvesant High School Parents' Association Minutes of the General Meeting of November 20, 2012

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm by Co-President Christina Ross.
2. Approval of Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2012 meeting. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.
3. Co-Presidents' Greetings:
Co-Presidents Christina Ross and Peter Galasiano welcomed everyone to the meeting. They thanked the following volunteers who helped make recent events so successful:
 - a. Many thanks to our intrepid Faculty Reception Team, ably led by Julie Law and Meredith Altaman-Flomenbaum.
 - b. A big shout-out to Jessica Berfond for once again donating tonight's lavish refreshments.
 - c. Many thanks to James Du, Tony Kam and Andrew Wong for making last week's Computer Literacy class such a success.
 - d. Chris Ross asked for parent input regarding future programs and presentations to be sponsored by the PA.
 - e. The Co-Presidents reminded the parents that any family still in need of assistance as a result of Hurricane Sandy should not hesitate to contact the PA or Harvey Blumm.
4. Principal's Greetings: Assistant Principal Eric Grossman made an announcement on behalf of Principal Zhang who was unable to attend the meeting.
 - a. Assistant Principal Grossman invited parents to a Tuesday, December 11 Breakfast with the Principal.
 - b. Chris Ross added an invitation to parents to the first Chinese Outreach meeting of the school year in early December. The meeting will be conducted wholly in Chinese. Principal Zhang will be the featured speaker followed by a college presentation. The date for the meeting will be announced shortly.
5. Ratification of Senior Member-at-Large:
A motion was made and seconded to ratify Bill Kaczmarek's uncontested nomination as Senior Parent-at-Large. A motion was made, seconded and voted up to approve Bill Kaczmarek as Senior Member-at-Large.
6. Financial Summary: Treasurer Steven Bloom gave an update on PA financials:
 - a. \$250,000 in annual appeals revenue was this year's goal and the figure upon which the PA's budget is based. To date, we have raised only 15% of this amount. At this time last year, we had raised \$54,000, which was 22% of last year's annual appeal goal. Steven reviewed a number of school programs sponsored by the PA including, among others, college advisement and overtime for guidance counselors. He encouraged parents to contribute to the annual appeal generously to continue the school's critical programs.
7. Upcoming Events:
 - a. Holiday Concert and Art Show – Wednesday, December 5 and Friday, December 7.
 - b. Barnes & Noble Book Fair – December 10- 16 (Monday to Sunday.)
 - c. College Tours Trip for Juniors – December 14-16 (Friday to Sunday)
 - d. Next PA General Meeting – Tuesday, December 18.
8. Special Faculty Panel:
Chris Ross explained that today is the start of online programming for spring courses. While many courses are required for lower classmen, as a student moves up the grades, more electives and selectives become available. Students should be aware of prerequisites and course requirements. She noted that tonight's program features Assistant Principals and faculty from three academic disciplines who can shed light on courses in their departments, and suggested that parents encourage their children to review the online course catalogue. She also explained that math and foreign language classes are generally sequential and therefore those departments are not represented in the program tonight. However, there are opportunities in math that can be reviewed online. Chris Ross introduced the guest speakers:
 - a. Ms. Jennifer Suri (AP – Social Studies)

- b. Mr. Eric Grossman (AP – English)
- c. Dr. Jonathan Gastel (Research Coordinator and biology teacher)

9. Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded. A vote was taken and the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Alta Indelman, Recording Secretary.