

Stuyvesant High School Parents' Association
Minutes of the Meeting of March 28, 2017

The meeting of the Stuyvesant PA General Membership was called to order at approximately 7:08 pm on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 by PA Co-President David Venderbush.

Welcome

All attending parents were welcomed to the General Meeting.

Minutes

The minutes of the February 15, 2017 PA General Meeting were approved without objection.

SLT Update

- Cindy Nelson gave a brief update of the SLT meeting that took place earlier in the day.
- Among the items discussed were continuing discussions regarding a possible exemption from the Phys Ed requirement for PSAL student athletes; and consideration of CEP goals for the next school year.
- Cindy encouraged interested parents to consider running for SLT positions in the upcoming May elections.

PA Elections

- Elections will take place at the May 23, 2017 General Meeting
- Nominations will commence shortly for EB and SLT positions and will close on May 16, 2017
- Please contact Nominations@stuy-pa.org with any questions.

Remarks by Interim Acting Principal Contreras

- Principal Eric Contreras provided an update concerning various items and achievements.
- Among the items mentioned included the Science Olympiad; the achievements of the Math Team and the Robotics Team.
- Special mention was made of the "Genes in Space" project involving the International Space Station, where a Stuyvesant student was the only student to have a project as part of the launch.
- Mr. Contreras also spoke about expanding Math and Social Science research at Stuy.
- The recent grade specific parent meetings that were held for Freshman and Sophomore parents were well received.
- Mr. Contreras continues to reach out to the Stuy alumni base, hosting several industry specific events in Law, Finance and Medicine. As these events progress, Mr. Contreras aims to try to include a small number of senior students among the invitees.
- 800+ students participated in the Math AMC exam.

Special Appropriation – Innovation Lab

- Joy Devries Heinze presented details concerning the Innovation Lab project slated for underutilized classroom 250.
- This project represents an exciting upgrade & modernization of the Engineering Electives at Stuyvesant HS.
- The Innovation Lab will be a place where students will get to work with the latest equipment, computers, 3-D printers and more, in the subject areas of Computer Science, Engineering and Drafting.

- The total budget for the Innovation Lab project is approximately \$780,000, \$600,000 of which coming from equal sized grants from the Borough President Gale Brewer & from City Councilperson Margaret Chin.
- The balance of \$180,000 needed to fully fund this project was approved by the PA Executive Board at its recent meeting, and is recommended for approval by the PA this evening.
- A motion to approve this Special Appropriation was made, seconded and passed. by the PA General membership.

Parent Coordinator Dina Ingram

- Dina spoke about a Guidance Office program to help students get better organized. Students should stop by the guidance office when they have some free time. There will be some Swag.

Spring Feast

- Andrew Cribb provided an update on Spring Feast which will take place at the Jing Fong restaurant in Chinatown on March 31, 2017.
- 900 tickets have been sold to date. Goal is 1,000 attendees. In addition to parents, students are welcome to attend. .
- There are various ways to purchase tickets. See E-News and/or the PA website.
- Parents that may be interested in volunteering for various PA events such as Spring Feast should send an email to Volunteers@stuy-pa.org.

Financial Report

- Treasurer Iris Lam gave a brief financial report.
- Copies of the financial report were made available to parents prior to the start of the meeting.

Regular Spring PA Appropriations

- Beth Bacon gave a brief report, accompanied by a detailed handout summarizing specific appropriations.
- Approximately \$108,668 for multiple projects and clubs was approved at the EB meeting which took place on March 27, 2017.
- A motion to approve these recommended Appropriations was made, seconded and approved by the PA General membership.

Featured Guest Speaker: Anna Levy-Warrant, PhD on Executive Functioning

- Dr. Warren gave a compelling presentation, accompanied by slides, which was focused on how to help your child develop skills for excellence in high school, college and beyond.
- Executive Functioning refers to an interrelated set of cognitive processes that govern goal-directed behaviors and enable us to effectively manage everyday activities. EF skills allow students to effectively process information, maintain focus, organize thoughts, adapt knowledge for particular situations, screen for errors, and manage frustration. Extensive research indicates that proficient organizational and EF skills provide the foundation required for success in academic, occupational and social-emotional realms of life.

Upcoming Meetings / Other

- The next General Meeting of the Parents Association will take place on April 25 at 7:00 pm. Refreshments will be available starting at 6:30 pm.
- College Night for Juniors and their families will take place on April 27 at 6:00 pm. Hundreds of admissions officers from various colleges and universities are expected to attend and make presentations.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by
Ross Weiner, Recording Secretary

Note: The PA Website can be found at www.Stuy-PA.org/welcome