BSI PTO General Meeting Minutes
June 22, 2016

- The General PTO meeting was called to order by the PTO President David Orsolino at 6:45 PM. There were 21 members in attendance. The minutes for the May 2016 meeting were read by James Ng and unanimously approved by the attending parents. Thank you to Yulianna Shamayev for taking the video of Donna’s presentation.

- Principal’s report was presented by Donna Taylor [video]:
  - First, congratulations to Sofia Cirone, her self portrait was one of the 89 pieces of art selected by the MET for the PS Art Show. They were chosen from thousands of student submissions. Sofia’s art was also one of 23 that is on display at Time Square.
  - We’ve been reviewing demo lessons from the potential ELA teacher for the 8th grade.
  - Next year will be our 1st year of graduation. Looking into venues to hold graduation. It is exciting to see which HS they will be going to. We will have mini HS fair next year.
  - We’ll be departmentalizing 3rd grade next year. Ms. Audrey will teach math and Ms. Mallory will teach ELA. We’ve been very successful with departmentalizing 5th grade the last two years and 4th grade this year, so we’ll push it to 3rd grade next year. Kids learn better with specialized teachers.
  - There will only be two new teachers next year. We’ll have a new gym teacher. He loves basketball.
  - 6th grade will have an ICT class. 2 teachers with one being a special education teacher.
  - There will be 2 TA for kindergarten and 1st grade.
  - Will miss the kids over summer.
o Q: Will 701 and 702 be mixed next year? 
   Every year, they all get mixed up so they could develop new relationship and 
   friendship.

o Q: Are we having advisory next year? 
   Will be a little different next year. Will have 10 minutes each day. Mostly kids 
   want to talk to their content teachers.

o Q: Do kids have input in the ELA teacher hiring? 
   They participate in the demo lessons but no, they’re not part of the hiring 
   committee.

o Q: Is the 5th grade curriculum changed? 
   Social Study for 5th grade is the only thing that will change.

o We will be using the DOE report card system next year.

o Mrs. Anna could explain school loop if you have questions.

o At BSI, humanity is a combined ELA with Social Studies. There are other middle 
   school that does it this way so HS should understand how it works.

o Q: Will there be Mix Art for 5th grade next year? 
   We have not finished with 5th grade curriculum yet.

o We will do whatever we can to support every kid's choices for HS. If needed be, 
   we could call the HS to explain our curriculum.

o Every teacher are responsible for their classroom.

o We will not have BHS and violin next year.

- President's report was presented by David Orsolino:
   o Thanked all the outgoing board members.

- EVP report was presented by Celeste Ivers:
   o Thanks to every parent (named) who had chaired or taken part in the many 
     committees and teams.

- Treasurer's report was presented by Daniel Rakitin:
   o As of June 22, there is $505+K in the bank. We raised $260+K from the DA 
     effort.
   o Proposed to vote to transfer everything in excess of $25K to BSI as of June 30th 
     end of fiscal year. Vote was taken and unanimously passed by the attending 
     parents (16).
   o Budget for 2016-17 forward funding for 2017-18 was presented. Vote was taken 
     with the attending parents (16) and is unanimously passed.

- Fundraising report was presented by Jim Buksikares:
Will be sending out counting messages for DA.
- Budget for next year’s early events were presented so planning could get started. Gala budget is included because we need to be able to book venue early.
- At Fall Harvest, we will have sponsorship tables. We’ll be selling tables to after school programs or camps.
  Fall Harvest budget was voted by the attending parents and unanimously passed.
- DA budget was voted by the attending parents and unanimously passed.
- Gala budget was voted by the attending parents and unanimously passed.
- At the cyclone game we sold 186 tickets.
- Co-VP of Fundraising position is still open.

- PACE report:
  - No report.

- SLT report:
  - Final points of CEP.
  - ESL teacher will be pushed in.
  - 8th grade will not have sheltered project dates.
  - Adjustment are coming to the website.
  - Ms. Valerie will head up national honor society at BSI.

- Meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM