



**Brooklyn Tech PA Virtual Meeting Minutes via Zoom on 11/19/2020 @6:30 p.m.**

PA Co- Recording Secretaries: Lincoln Favors and Michelle Cheung

**Treasury Report:**

- October treasury report was shared in the chat.
- Payments were made for Naviance and some other nominal expenses.

**Co-Presidents**

Co-President Lisa noted that a survey was conducted among the teachers to identify needs to assist teachers in conducting remote learning classes more efficiently. All the items that were identified will cost approximately \$20,000.

Co-President Cindy stated that in the past, the PA annually served dinner to teachers for Teacher Appreciation Day on Fall parent teacher conference day. Due to Covid19, there is a thought of delivering something via email like a gift card. A suggestion to give a gift card that also supports the local business.

Due to Covid-19 this year, the Parent-Teacher conferences will be on Nov 30 and Dec 1 remotely. Parents should sign up online by November 22.

Parent workshops will be conducted virtually. 11/21/2020 will be the first workshop with 3 sessions.

Volunteers are always needed for some committees.

The Guidance Counselor's office handles all students' recommendation letters.

Thanked to Ms. Nottingham for the Google Class message posted on each Math teachers' classroom regarding the effect to human interaction on the use of cameras in virtual class.

**Speakers included:**

- Principal Mr. Newman
- Assistant Principal - Ms. Nottingham -
- Assistant Principal of LOTE - Mrs. Santiago-Campbell
- Chemistry teacher - Ms. Correge

- Guidance Counselor - Ms. Williams
- Vito (Co-corresponding secretary)
- Bruno (Junior SLT)
- Kim & Jasmin (CO-VP of Diversity)
- Hilary (Co-VP events and volunteers)

**Health and Safety meeting Update** - Vito represented the PA president at the this meeting noted:

- A plan to conduct Covid-19 testing for all public school students and teachers without requiring a consent form.
- Student discipline will be limited to lessen the impact on students for life due to actions done while studying remotely.
- Teachers' and students' safety will be foremost whether it is in-person or virtual class.

**SLT Meeting Update** Bruno noted that:

The SLT is composed of principal, teachers, parents, alumni, UFT representatives and students. A SLT chairman was elected. SLT objectives for the 2020-2021 school year include:

- Defining the comprehensive education plans (CEP) and school policy..
- Aligning the budget with the CEP.
- Assisting the principal in hiring key teachers, but the principal makes the final decision.
- Reviewing last school year's goals.

**Kim and Jasmin** spoke about:

- Diversity information had been shared in previous Tech-Talk.
- The next diversity meeting will be on December 4, 2020 to discuss what could they do while we are still in the pandemic time.

**Hilary** spoke about:

- Starting on Saturday 11/21/20, the first PA Parent workshop will be held with three sessions. Many parents have registered. There will be more workshops coming in December on different topics. Parents should use Tech-Talk for information.
- Parents should volunteer, because help is always needed and welcome.

**Guest speakers**

**Mrs. Santiago- Campbell, AP of LOTE** – (course languages)

- All BTHS students need 3 years of the same language other than English (LOTE) for credit.
- Students are not allowed to change language during their BTHS years.
- There are specific requirements to receive credit for LOTE taken during middle school which included passing the Second Language Proficiency (SLP) exam.

- New incoming Freshman credit for language
  - Public School Students will be automatically uploaded because they are already in the system.
  - Private school students need to provide a language syllabus for credit.
- Common languages at BTHS are Spanish, Mandarin and French
- Please contact Mrs. Santiago-Campbell for more information.

**Ms. Tara William** shared 3 talking points

- SAT/ACT is optional to college admission this year or next year due to Covid-19. students will need to do well in high school. Teachers' and guidance counselors' recommendations will help students stand out in the college admission process. A well balanced list of colleges is recommended.
- Students need to be well-rounded and not just rely on SAT/ACT for college admission. Also check the college board site for SAT/ACT cancellation information.
- Students should be in contact with their guidance counselor during the school year.

Any question should be directed to the students' guidance counselors.

**Ms. Correge** has been teaching at BTHS for 11 years:

- Every science regent course has a lab component and students must complete a total of 20 60 minutes labs which is equivalent to 1200 minutes of lab work in order to qualify for the regent exam. Students must document and complete the lab works in the lab report. These 20 labs include 4 state mandated labs assigned either by the lab teacher or the classroom teacher.
- All lab courses are asynchronous. Lab is shown on period 5 in Pupilpath's schedule and all work will be assigned and submitted by Google classroom.
- Lab assignment is posted on a specific date and expected to be completed by a specific date.
- Labs involved with dissection will be conducted via viewing video. If students are uncomfortable viewing the dissection, they can opt out by communicating with the lab teacher.
- If there is no regent exam to be held for this year the student still needs to complete the 1200 minutes of labs to get a Regents waiver.
- Visit the school website for further information.

**Principal Newman** discussed:

- School closure by the Mayor and School Chancellor. BTHS has no issue moving to 100% remote learning and will be able to switch back to blended when schools reopen as directed. Based on email exchange with the school chancellor, school may be 100% remote for the rest of the year.
- PSAT has been postponed to 1/26/21 which still qualifies for national merit. If the school remains closed, the date will be changed accordingly.

- School can manage to have 1500-1600 students taking exams in the building, but the concerns are getting proctors.
- SAT/ACT is optional for college. He advised students to be cautious opting for credits (CRs) CR is used in dissipating the grade and only applies to the final grade.
- Colleges will not see CR, but it may cause issues when applying for college if the grades are not available for consideration.
- NX is used to indicate a course in progress or a form of incomplete for a failing course, and the student will be given the time to rectify. An NX rectified course will become a CR not a graded course. The school will reach out to students with NX grade and advise of what must be done to rectify it.
- Any non-rectified NX will become a failing grade noted on the transcript.
- Teachers are encouraged to have their cameras on while teaching.
- DOE does not allow non-approved virtual background.
- Students will be asked to turn their cameras during testing. Students will be respected if there is an issue with having their camera on.
- Parent Teacher Conference will be conducted via zoom, Google meet or phone call.
- Attendance is now heavily tracked by DOE. Attendance is getting updated, but it takes a bit of time to have it reflected in Pupilpath.
- In addressing parents' concerns with PE assignments in the form of written assignments instead of physical activities, he will talk to the PE teachers about the concerns.
- 504 letters will be handled by Mr. Ventura.
- Missing grades In Pupilpath will be corrected.