

techtalk

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE TECH PA

Tech Talk 10.17.22 Volume 11 / Edition 4

Greetings from the PA Presidents

Greetings, BTHS community!

Our PA is off to a busy start, with our second in-person meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 20th, at 6 PM. Our primary order of business will be the election of five representatives from the freshman class and one seat on the School Leadership Team (SLT). Mr. Newman will be attending to answer questions from parents and caregivers.

Check out our meeting agenda below—we hope to see you there!

Best wishes,

Mia Lu & Hamilton Cain
Co-Presidents, BTHS PA
papresident@bths.edu

Important Dates

- **Oct. 18-20** - International College Fair
- **Oct. 20** - Thursday - 6 PM BTHS PA Meeting - at school
- **Oct. 22** - Saturday - Understanding College Financial Aid and Paying for College in English and Mandarin (see below)
- **Oct. 25** - PSAT administered to Juniors (in school)
- **Oct. 25** - Senior Class Picture in the park
- **Oct. 27** - Thursday - 7 PM Diversity Book Club Discussion of "Sissy"
- **Oct. 29** - Senior Yearbook Photo Retakes
- **Nov. 8** - NO SCHOOL - Election Day
- **Nov. 10** - Masquerade Ball - Seniors only
- **Nov. 11** - NO SCHOOL - Veteran's Day
- **Nov. 17** - Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences
- **Nov. 18** - Afternoon Parent-Teacher Conferences, Early Dismissal
- **Nov. 29** - Tuesday - 6:00 PM BTHS PA Meeting - Online
- **Nov. 24-25** - NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break
- **Feb. 3, 2023** - Friday, Sixth Annual Lunar New Year Celebration

For a complete view of important dates, see the [BTHS calendar](#) and [DOE calendar](#).

October PA General Meeting

The October PA general meeting will take place **Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 6 PM** in the Riggio Auditorium at BTHS.

The meeting will be led by PA co-presidents Hamilton Cain and Mia Lu. In September, parent coordinator Mary Huhn was available for questions, and Principal Newman joined by Zoom at the end of the meeting. Thank you to both of them.

PROPOSED AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Announcements:
 - Important Dates
 - College Financial Aid Workshop
 - Equity Book Club
 - Lunar New Year save the date
 - College Essay Replay link
 - Thank yous for June-August Donors
3. Elections: nominations are closed as of 10/7.
4. Q&A with David Newman
5. Reminders
6. Shop to Donate
7. Adjournment

The meeting minutes from the September meeting can be viewed [HERE](#).

Workshop: Understanding College Financial Aid and Paying for College Saturday, October 22, 2022, 10 to 11:30 AM (English)

Learn about the different types of financial aid and how to choose a college you can afford.

Do you know if you'll qualify for need-based aid? Do you know how to find colleges that will award scholarships based on your student's grades and academic qualifications? Are you confident you can pay for four years of college without the student or the parents taking on excessive debt? Attend this session to learn how to answer these questions. Take control of your student's college cost by making sure the student has a list of affordable colleges before he or she applies. This presentation takes the mystery out of financial aid and college costs.

Topics include:

- New changes coming to the FAFSA
- Types of aid: grants, scholarships, work/study, loans.
- How do colleges decide how much aid to give?
- Need- and merit-based aid, what's the difference, how to get it?
- What do you need to know about financial aid applications: the FAFSA and the Profile forms?
- Using net price calculators to estimate your cost after aid at any college.
- Estimating the 4-year bottom line: how much will you pay for a college degree?
- How can you estimate how much college debt you'll need?
- How can you decide if college debt is reasonable and affordable?

Presented by Bill Smith, Managing Director, ScholarFITS LLC

Smith worked with colleges to program their financial aid policies into online financial aid estimators known as Net Price Calculators. His clients included Bowdoin, MIT, the University of Arkansas, Yale, and many others. Bill became an expert at determining eligibility for need-based aid using both the FAFSA and the CSS Profile methods. He learned how colleges decide how much merit and need-based aid to award, and the mix of grants, scholarships, loans, and work-study. He operates ScholarFITS LLC, working with families throughout the US from his office in Portland Maine. Smith's BA is from Williams College, he has an MBA from Northwestern University and a Certificate in College Counseling from UCLA.

eye-opening and giggle-inducing memoir about what it's like to grow up not sure if you're (a) a boy, (b) a girl, (c) something in between, or (d) all of the above.”

This meeting will not be recorded as this is a safe space intended to be free of bias, conflict, criticism, or potentially threatening actions, ideas, or conversations. We ask that everyone be respectful as we have these difficult, uncomfortable, but necessary discussions.

We will be joined by a special guest. See you there!



SAVE THE DATE

The Brooklyn Tech PA is happy to announce that our
6th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration
will be held at the Affable Eatery in Brooklyn on
Friday, February 3, 2023
More details to follow soon.
We look forward to seeing you there!

Workshop: Strategies for Writing the College App Essay **REPLAY Available**

The PA hosted this great workshop hosted by Jonathan Shapiro on October 6. A number of attendees were shut out of this meeting, so we've made this workshop available on the PA's YouTube channel.

[**CLICK HERE**](#)

Jonathan Shapiro has been helping students write as a teacher and tutor for more than 20 years. His tutees have been accepted to the most select schools, including Harvard, Princeton, Stanford, Yale, MIT, NYU, Cornell, and many, many more.

Jonathan's BA is in English from Rutgers College and his MFAs are from Sarah Lawrence College and the University of Washington. Currently, Jonathan teaches writing and literature at Fordham University and tutors writing for college application essays and academic and creative writing.

Dinner/Breakfast with the Principal

Principal Newman is hosting a series of informal gatherings to meet with Tech parents and caregivers. These meetings are in-person and held in the principal's conference room.

This is your chance to hear Principal Newman's educational philosophy and learn more about our school. Parents can ask questions or just listen to questions from other parents.

No prior experience at PA events is required. Each session is limited to 25 seats. Accordingly, only one parent of each student will be permitted and proof of vaccination is required.

All seats have been reserved for the currently scheduled sessions. We're hoping Principal Newman's schedule will allow for some additional dates. Watch this space for updates.

THANK YOU

The Brooklyn Tech PA relies on donations from parents, guardians, families, friends, and community businesses to fund all of the enriching programs we sponsor.

June-August Donors

Ai Lian Chen, Heather O'Donnell, Marc Lapidus, Simon Lee, Aihua Chen, Hui Feng Shi, Margaret Dy-So, Susana Carhuayano, Aksana Pisetskaya, HUILIAN HUANG, Marge Ginsburg, Susanne Dahlhaus, Alexandra Khorovsky, Ilona Tsukerman, Marie Hueston, SUZANNE KERR, Allison Kirshner, Inna Kosyakovskiy, Marie Rella, Suzanne Varni, Andrea Legnani, Iris Chen, Matthew Isca, Tatiana Walker, Angeline Drakopoulos, Iris Sasson, May Huang, Teresa Piasecki, Ann Vasquez Kosta, Irma Gachehiladze, Megan Galvin, Thomas Cahill, Anna Pizzelli, Ivy Chen, Meibing Shi, Timothy Wong, Antonia Martinelli, Jane Barasch, Meili Wu, Tina Fan, Barbara Silverbush, Jane Pan Yam Cheung, Mei Mei Liu, Tobin Kovacs, Becky Zhang, Jane Townsend, Meiyan Chen, Tong Bao, Beth Porter, Janice Zhang, Mengqiong Xia, Valeriy Chorny, BUSERA AKHTAR, Jeffrey Drew, Mia Cole, Vicky Lei, Carol Chen, Jemal S Carter, Michael Prieve, Vivian Luo, Carolann Solebello, Jennifer Dalton, Mieko Mendez, Vladyslav Kalnytskyi, Catherine Tseng, Jeraine Campos, Min Yi Yu Cheng, WENHAO Chen, Cheng-Fen Chen, Jessica Hartshorn, Ming Tak Gordon LAW, Wen-Wen Chien, Chih Lee, Jian Rong Liu, Mingfang Zou, Wing Tang, Chiu yun Chang, Jianliang Huang, Minna Zhao, Xi Hua Li, Christopher Miceli, Jie Ma, Muxiang Chen, Xiao Jie Zhou, Chunkit Ho, Jin Chen, Neil Rosenhouse, xiaofeng Li, Chunru Chen, Jin rong Zhong, Olga Makarenko, Xiaohong Chen, Claudius Campos, Jin Yan Wang, Olga Noy, Xiaohuan Lin, Clifton Ng, Johannes Kroemer, Oradee Imvised, Xiaoxing Jiang, Congsa Huang, JUN WU, Pam Leck, Xing Ying Li, Constantine Flouras, Junhja Xiao, Praewpan Ash, Xiu Yun Jiang, Cuihua Dong, Karen Chiu, Qi Chen, xiu zhu chen, Dara Genesi, Karl Nelson, Qimei Zhao, Xiulan Liu, Debra Laefer, Keith Tung, Rachel Hall Danes, xiulin yang, Despena Vasiadis, Kim Jin, Rachel Wolfe, Xiunan Chen, Dian liang Jiang, Kira Vakulchyk, Rachelle Sorensen, Xuejiao Zou, Emily Smith, Kirsten Shaw, Rentao Zhu, Xuezhen Zhu, Emma Wu, Kristin MacQuarrie, Rohilya Scott, Yan L Liang, Erin Trowbridge, Lauren Korman, Rong Lin, Yan L Liang, Estella Li, Lena Addo, Rosa Arias, Yan Li, Eugene HUANG, Lidy Chu, Ruzheng Qiu, Yan Zhang, EUGENE SHVARTSMAN, Lika Ye, Saiping Lin, Yanying Weng, Feng Lin, Limei Fu, Sandy Zhang, Yevgeniy Glebov, Fred Stesney, Linda Quarles, Sara Dewey, YING FENG CHEN, Garold Minkin, Linda Wong, Sara Powers, Yong Liu, Geraldine Amara, Line Dopffer, Sean Stanton, Young Yun, Gloria Lung, Lisa Perlmutter, Shan Huang, Yu fan Wu, Habibur Rahman, Lizhen Dong, Sharon Almog, Yue Yi Wu, Haiqiong Chan, Lorie Bartley, Sharon Mei, Yun Hua Huang, hayes slade, Mabel Chung, Shu Qin Wu, Zhili Chen, He Yi Weng, Maggie Lava, Shuzhen Zhen, Zoe Hilden, Heather Hamilton.

PLUS, Corporate Donors:

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Reminders

Blue Cards: We need to have a digital blue card on file for every student. If you have not filled out the blue card, please do so **here**. Parents will not be able to access their NYC Schools Account without this. (And, that NYC SA will take some time to set up.)

Lunch Form: Everyone gets free lunch, however, our kids need to **fill out their lunch forms ASAP**, as it determines something far more important - Fee Waivers for SAT/ACT tests, College Applications and AP Exams. School Day PSAT and SAT are free for everyone. Every family has to fill this out every year. You can decide not to submit financial information, but please fill out and check that box.

Students' Email: Please go to the **BTHS.edu** website for information on how to set up student email accounts. Use your **NYCStudents.net** account for information and schedules (see next item).

Students' Schedules: Your student should have received their schedules online. They are available through **Teach Hub** after they sign in with their NYCStudents.net account.

Emergency Contact Information: All families must update their info, in particular, their emergency contact information and student's health information, in the **NYC Schools Account**. This is different from the blue card, so we need full participation.

Parents: Because PupilPath is no longer used, you can follow your child's progress and grades on **the NYC Schools Account** (NYCSA). If you need need a creation code, please contact parent coordinator **MaryHuhn**. Please be patient, and Mary will get it for you.

Gym Uniforms: BTHS gear will be required for P.E. this year. Students can buy uniform items at the S.G.O. store on the 7th floor during the second week of school. Please wait for more information from your P.E. teacher.

Shop to Donate

The Tech PA benefits from the following vendors when you click through the links below or designate the PA as your charity.

- Designate "Brooklyn Tech Parent Association" on **smile.amazon.com** as your charity or **click here** and a percentage of your purchases will automatically be donated to the Tech PA. Bookmark the page so whenever you shop, you're supporting Tech.
- Designate "Brooklyn Tech Parent Association" on your **Target RedCard**. Enroll your card in the "Take Charge of Education" program and Tech PA will receive a 1% contribution when you shop online and at all Target Stores.
- Shop at more than 2000 stores through **GoodShop** and **OneCause**. Choose "Brooklyn Tech Parent Association" as the school cause—the PA will receive donations at no additional cost to you.
- **Goodsearch** is a search engine run by Yahoo. Choose "Brooklyn Tech Parent Association" as the school cause and donations are made to the PA with every internet search.

Co-Vice President of Communications: Lisa Marsh, Rachel Hall Danes
Thanks to parent volunteers.



Visit our
Website

TechPA

BROOKLYN TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL PARENT ASSOCIATION

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