

01,10,21 Volume 9/ Edition 16

Stay Connected!















2020-2021 PA Meetings

September 24 October 22 (4th Thurs.) November 19 December 17

January 21 February 11 (2nd Thurs.) March 18 April 15 May 20

June 17

Unless otherwise noted, meetings will be held on the third Thursday of each month and will start at 6:30pm.

Executive Board meetings immediately precede at 5:30 pm. Please email papresident@bths.edu if you would like to attend an Executive Board meeting.



Quick Links

BTHS website

Tech PA website

BTHS Calendar

DOE website

TechTalk Archives



Happy 2021 Tech Families!!!!

Welcome to our first Tech Talk of the new year! Our biggest news this week - as of this evening we (the Tech families) have collectively given all teachers and staff a \$15 seamless gift card to use for a meal of their choice from an establishment of their choice. HUGE, HUGE shout out to Pamela Ryan, freshman representative parent, who worked with Ms. Nottingham to make it happen!!!!! Different than we have done in previous years but still lets them know how much we appreciate them. Thank you families for your donations for making this happen.

Did you know we are the most diverse specialized high school? Our Diversity Committee met just a few days ago to discuss our latest book selection. We are proud that we can come together as a community to learn from and celebrate our differences. Read all about it below and join them next time.

Here's to the hope of getting back into our beloved 99 year-old Tech building in 2021!!!

Best, Cindy Kue and Lisa Sullivan BTHS PA Co-Presidents - papresident@bths.edu



CLICK HERE for freshman specific info

In this week's edition

- Upcoming Important Dates
- Upcoming PA Events
- Highlights from Recent PA Events
- College Office News
- Tutoring & Academic Resources
- Reminders

Upcoming Important Dates

Jan. 15 - Jan. 22, 2021- Finals Week

Jan. 18, 2021 - Schools Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Jan. 21, 2021 - January PA Meeting

Jan. 26, 2021- PSAT

subject to school opening/ stay tuned for more information from Mr.

Newman

Jan. 29, 2021 - MP2 Grades Due

For a complete view of dates, see the school's <u>calendar</u> and DOE's <u>calendar</u>.



Upcoming Brooklyn Tech PA Events

Every Tech Parent is a member of the Tech PA. We encourage and welcome your participation on committees and in events.

Save the Date!

<u>January</u>

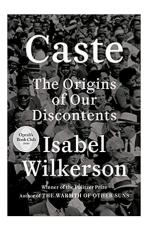
January 22, 2021 at 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Please join us for the PA's Social Justice/Racial Equity Book Study Group for parents and staff of Brooklyn Technical High School. Please <u>register</u> to receive the Zoom meeting link.

We will be continuing our discussion of the New York Times bestseller and Oprah's Book Club pick, "Caste" by Isabel Wilkerson. This compelling book examines social and racial division in the United States using comparisons

with India and Nazi Germany.

Discussion on Part 4: The Tentacles of Caste. Part 5: The Consequences of Caste and Part 6: Backlash (Page 167-357)



<u>February</u>

February 5, 2021 6:00pm - 9:00pm Lunar New Year Celebration

We invite all parents and students to join in the celebration! We have a dance, a talent showcase, a raffle and more planned for this exciting event. We are looking for videos from students, parents and Brooklyn Tech staff. Additionally, we are collecting New Year's greetings in various languages/dialects. Parents and students are welcome to participate. Students who participate will get 2 club credits! We want to make this year's celebration bigger and better.





Highlights from recent BTHS PA events

The PA's Social Justice/Racial Equity Book Club kicked off the new year with

a virtual discussion of the NY Times Bestseller and Oprah's Book Club Selection, "Caste" by Isabel Wilkerson.

Fifteen participants (including new and Freshmen parents) engaged in a lively discussion about the historical roots of caste in America. We explored the following:

- 1. Caste and Race What is the difference between the two? How do casteism and racism support each other?
- 2. "Before there was a United States of America," Wilkerson writes, "there was a caste system, born in colonial Virginia." How can Americans reckon with this fact? What does it mean to you to live in a country whose system of discrimination was cemented before the country itself?
- 3. Wilkerson discusses three major caste systems throughout the book: India, Nazi Germany, and America. What are some of the differences that stood out to you among these three systems? What are the similarities? How did learning about one help you understand the others? For instance, did the fact that the Nazis actually studied America's segregation practices and Jim Crow laws help underscore the breadth of our own system?
- 4. "Indians will ask one's surname, the occupation of one's father, the village one is from, the section of the village that one is from, to suss out the caste of whoever is standing in front of them," Wilkerson writes. "They will not rest until they have uncovered the person's rank in the social order." How is this similar to and different from the process of determining caste in America? Have you ever, for instance, asked someone what they did for work or where they lived or went to school, and been surprised? Did you treat them differently upon hearing their answer?

New participants are welcome at our next book club meeting on Friday, **January 22, 2021 at 6:30 pm.** Please keep an eye out for an email with registration information.

College Corner



The College Office has shared several ways to stay updated on events, information and scholarships. Please feel free to follow them:

Facebook

Pinterest

BTHS College Office webpage

Attention Seniors:

UFT Shanker Scholarship deadline is now extended to FEBRUARY 1st!!!!

Scholarships

Some scholarships listed have a closing dates approaching this week.

Tutoring & Academic Resources

<u>BTHS Tutoring:</u> Tech offers several opportunities for peer tutoring:

Mathematics

Algebra 1 & 2, Geometry & Precalculus - BTHS Mu Alpha Theta Monday - Friday 2:30 - 4:00 PM via discord Interested students should sign up here.

Chemistry

ACS Chem Club Tutoring
Monday - Wednesday 2:30-3:30 PM
Interested students should sign up here.

Computer Science Principles

Online Tutoring Club
Tutoring in various subject areas including AP CSP.
Interested students should visit their Discord server here.

Albert.io for the 2020/2021 School Year: With Albert.io, students work through practice questions to help them prepare for difficult academic subject tests such as the AP exams, Regents, SAT, and ACT. See here for additional details.

BTHS Library Resources: Please see here for resources and information from our librarians.

The BTHS Reading Challenge has started!

6 books in 6 months in special categories.

Teachers, staff, students and family are encouraged to join for fun! More information at https://bthslib.weebly.com/reading-challenge.html

Reminders from Frevious recti raiks

Joining Clubs: It's not too late to join clubs! Please see here. Find out more about the SGO sticker and purchase one here.

Princeton Review Discount for Tech students: Please see this <u>link</u> for details.

<u>BTHS Test Policy:</u> See <u>here</u> to review the new Assessment Schedule for Hybrid and Remote Learning, its rules and details for Make-up exams and more.

<u>Support & Services During Remote Instruction:</u> The following support and services are available during the current school closures:

<u>Take-out Meals for Students & Families</u>: Visit <u>here</u> for additional details, menus and locations. Weekdays - 9:00 a.m. and noon. No identification or registration needed.

<u>Technology Support:</u> <u>Tech Support</u>, <u>DOE iPad issues</u>, <u>Internet connection</u> issues or call the **DOE IT Helpdesk** at **718-935-5100** and press **5**.

Please visit the PA Website for information about the Brooklyn Tech Parent Association.