

MS Council Meeting Minutes 3.15.23

President's Remarks, Deirdre Doheny

- Key upcoming dates:
 - Mar 22 Bronxville Summit - all invited, all community meeting with PTA/Bronxville Foundation at the BFC, 7pm
 - Mar 29 8:30am - PTA Partners in Prevention featuring 3 ER physicians from NY Presbyterian Westchester and Bronxville Police Department - continuing conversation on drug and alcohol abuse in our neighborhood

Superintendent's Updates, Dr. Rachel Kelly

- Saturday workshops - continuing the DEI conversation
 - Should we form a standard DEI policy?
 - Does our Bronxville promise adequately express our values and how it relates to DEI?
 - If it doesn't do that, is there verbiage/action to ensure that it does
 - Mar 27 7pm Auditorium lobby - next conversation if you'd like to share your perspective with the board
- Second Saturday workshop - Budget
 - Recommendation to board from leadership - add a few new positions (K-8 math coach, guidance counselor focused on 9th grade to help with transition to HS and 5th grade as transition to MS, school psychologist),
 - K-8 math coach - replicate success seen with literacy coach hired during covid
 - Can add these roles and stay below caps
- Board meeting 3/16 - budget recommendations will be presented. You are encouraged to participate and ask questions before May vote

Principal's Update, Mr. Mercora

- Congratulations to Hunter and Zeke Malpass who each won 2 medals at the Science Olympiad & to Jean Windels
- Continuing strategic planning with EnRusk - thanks to the Bronxville Foundation for funding this program!
 - BXV strategic planning committee - working on a formalized PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Services) - celebration of positive behaviors in our school
 - This is the next level to the ES's B3 program
 - Enhances Advisory program already in place
 - Parents/students will eventually be part of this committee after initial work done
 - Formalize MS intervention program - to assist students with socio/emotional/academic challenges
 - Revamp Advisory program
- 15 weeks to end of year - Regents, year end exams, end of year activities coming

- Creating culture of kindness and mindfulness
 - THINK before speaking - is it True? Helpful? Inspiring? Necessary? and Kind?
- Dates to keep in mind:
 - Superintendent's Conference Day 3/17
 - Spring Recess: 4/3-4/10

Bronxville Foundation, Katrina Nay

- Spring Grant cycle underway
- Community Drive continues through the spring, please support if you haven't yet
- BF Alumni newsletter will be out soon
- Visit the Bronxvilleschoolfoundation.org for more

Arts Council Update, Jenny Jaquette

- Spring solo recitals a success
- A successful kick off of Spring into Arts at the Picture House on Monday
 - Pickup Scavenger Hunter form at Ovender/Booskerdoo; take completed form to Candy Rox for a prize
 - Led to HS Open Mike night
- MS Musical - Lion King Junior - May 5%

Character and Community, Amy Brown

- 2 new initiatives -
 - Sat 4/15 10am-12pm - Community Litter Pickup. Looking for 16 student volunteers + 4 adult volunteers
 - Thur 3/30 at Nature's Cradle - build mason bee houses
- Circulating Google form for student's to report volunteer hours

8th Grade Update, Amy Brown

- 3/29 7pm - HS Moving Up meeting (TBD if zoom or in person)
- Grade chairs planning 8th grade graduation celebration including dance at BFC 6/22 8pm

4/19 7pm next MS Council meeting