

Townsend Harris Alumni Association, Inc.
149-11 Melbourne Avenue, Flushing, NY 11367

Minutes of the Directors Meeting

Date: June 29, 1997

Place: 1760 Third Avenue, New York, NY - 18th Floor

Time: 10:00 A.M.

Present: Saul Grossman (presiding), Abraham Bein, Norman Bernstein, Julie Chan, Jerome Chazen, Daniel Dwyer, Lester Friesner, Malcolm Largmann, Gerald Maslon, Charles Puglisi, Sidney Silverman, Tom Sweetin, Richard Tiffen.

- I. The Chair directed the Members to refer to their copies of the Minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Maslon pointed out that he attended that meeting and is not listed in the Minutes. Upon a motion made and seconded, the Board accepted the corrected Minutes of the previous meeting.
- II. Dr. Largmann reported the following:
- A. The Physical Plant
1. The gym floor was repaired at a cost of \$150,000.
 2. More than 8,000 books and several computers were destroyed by of the flood.
 3. Borough President Claire Shulman has arranged the appropriation of \$140,000 needed for the installation of a "dry system."
- Mr. Chazen asked about the possibility of filing a lawsuit against the Contractor.
- B. Retirements
1. Dr. Largmann reported the retirement of his Secretary; Mrs. Appel, Assistant Principal (Science); and Mr. Sweetin, Teacher, Senior Class Advisor, Yearbook Advisor, etc.
 2. Mr. Brendan Curran, formerly of The Bronx H.S. of Science will fill the position of A.P. Science, *pro tem*.
- C. Students
1. More than 4000 students applied for the school this year. The top 250 applicants were selected.
 2. Dr. Largmann reported on the efforts of ACORN, a parent advocate group, that is seeking access to the specialized high schools for their children.
- Dr. Grossman stated that he would send a note to Saul Cohen to request an interview and essay as part of the admission requirements for Townsend Harris.
- III. Mr. Dwyer, representing the PTA, reported on the End of Term PTA Dinner. He agreed to tell the Executive Board of the PTA that the Alumni Association thinks it would be appropriate for them to send a letter to Dr. Cohen in support of the interview and essay as part of the admission process.
- IV. Dr. Grossman reported for Dr. Leiner that all continues to go well between the College and the High School.
- V. Mr. Tiffen is coordinating Technology at the High School.
- A. He thanked the Alumni Association for their support.
- B. He has accomplished the following:
1. He has taught teachers how to create Web pages and updated the file servers.
 2. He is working with technical personnel from Queens College to link the school to their LAN.
 3. He has set up user accounts for each person in the building.
- C. He discussed the difficulties of dealing with Board of Education bureaucracy. No technical support is provided or funded. Dr. Largmann requested funding from the Alumni Association so that Mr. Tiffen could continue to work of projects that he has already started.
- D. Mr. Bein moved that the Board vote to recommend to the Disbursement Committee that they appropriate \$2500 for such a purpose. The motion was unanimously carried without discussion.
- VI. Julie Chan had nothing to report.
- VII. Dr. Grossman reported that he has received a letter from Mr. Merino in which he agreed with the Board's policy on Local Chapter Reimbursement.
- Dr. Grossman moved that Mr. Tom Sweetin be recognized for his unflagging dedication to the students of Townsend Harris and to the Alumni Association by granting him full-fledged membership as a member of the Board. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed without discussion.
- VIII. The meeting adjourned at 12:10 P.M.
- IX. The Board will meet on September 14, 1997.