



## Putnam Avenue Upper School

### SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING - April 30, 2025

Meeting Details	
Date of Meeting:	04/30/2025
Time:	5:30 - 7:00 PM
Committee Members:	3 - Jodi Ekelchik, Sweta Joshi, Betsy Vizcaino  4 - Dr. Phanenca Babio-James, Xavier Pierre-Jerome, Hsiu Fei Hsu, Kunjal Shah (ex-officio)  Apologies: Jennifer Elisa Betancourt, Olf Mouyaka, Rozelle McBarnette
Other Participants:	7

**DRAFT**

Agenda Details
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Welcome &amp; Introductions (5 minutes)</li><li>2) Introductions</li><li>3) Ice Breaker Question, Group brainstorm and sharing strategies (10 minutes): "How do we get more parents to step up and serve on the School Council and PAFA?"</li><li>4) Approval of January and March Meeting Minutes (2 minutes). Review and vote to approve</li><li>5) Budget Update &amp; Follow-Up (5 minutes)</li><li>6) School updates 15min</li><li>7) Elections discussions/ 10 min(Open seats: 3 School Council member positions)</li><li>8) Questions and clarifications 15 min</li><li>9) Ideas for a less formal, celebratory June 18th in-person finale</li></ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Next Meeting:</b> Wednesday, 28 May, 2025 from 5:30 - 7:00 PM via <a href="#">Zoom</a>: Last meeting of the year: June 18</li></ul>

## MEETING NOTES:

- **SC Presentation:** [APRIL 30 SLIDESHOW](#)
- Dr. Babio-James welcomed all attendees to the School Council meeting and launched introductions.
- A brainstorming session kicked off focused on the topic: How do we get more parents to step up and serve on the School Council and PAFA? Discussions continued and ideas were shared, including around partnership, family engagement, offering more invitations to join PAFA and the School Council, timing (e.g., having multiple types of engagement opportunities based on shift work), and offering a framework to make parents, caregivers and educators successful. In addition, make a greater effort to build trusted relationships with parents and caregivers, and an area of improvement for next year.
- The Minutes from the School Council meetings for Jan and Mar were approved.
- **Budget Update:** as of today, the budget has not been returned from the City solicitor, and we are not clear if any impact on the SIP budget. Reference the slidedeck on the Budget (General + SIP).
- **PAUS and Community Updates** - reference the slidedeck. Updates included an invitation to join the committees to take part in an interview panel for open positions (i.e., in person interviews).
- **School Council and PAFA Election Plans:** the slide deck includes information about the upcoming elections for both Student Council (3 positions) and PAFA. The election process will be shared by email to the PAUS community. It was noted that the PAUS leadership requested a summary level update by the parents/caregivers on the School Council, and this was submitted at the end of Feb to the School leadership for distribution across the school in advance of the Elections.
- **Any Other Business:** update on the Spring Conferences. There was some discussion about these, and it was shared that we do not have funding in the SIP budget to hold these conferences. It was noted to take this discussion offline.

The meeting ended at 6:45pm.

## Action Plan (if needed):

Action	Assigned To	Due Date
NEXT School Council meeting	PAUS	May 28 June 18

Other School Council Meeting Dates		
Monitor SIP Spending / Review	School Council	<p>A preliminary review was shared at the Jan 2025 meeting.</p> <p>Discussions will continue at the Feb (cancelled) and March School Council Meeting. As of April, but CPS budget was awaiting final approval.</p>

**GENERAL REFERENCE MATERIALS:**

- Putnam Ave. Website about the School Council: [link here](#) (meeting agenda and notes posted here)