



MINUTES
Board of Trustees Meeting
June 22, 2016

The meeting was held at: 198 Varet Street, Brooklyn, NY 11206

PRESENT

Lourdes Putz, Chair
David Fier, Staff Rep
John Witherspoon, Trustee
Charles Hobson, Trustee
Belkis Sosa, Student Rep
Samuel Rivera, Vice Chair
Joseph Cardarelli, Trustee
Akil Bello, Treasurer

GUESTS

Kathleen Gaffney, Principal
Mary Kenny, Minutes Transcriber
Kathy Fernandez, Staff
Princess Barimah, Staff
Roberta Smith, Staff

Ellen Eagen, School Attorney
Kate Manion, Staff
Darnell Pierre, Staff
Raymond James, Staff

EXCUSED

Marcenia Johnson, Trustee; Evans Barreau, Parent Rep

The meeting was called to order at 9:07pm.

1. WELCOME TO BOARD MEETING

Ms. Putz welcomed everyone.

2. BUDGET/HR REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Ms. Fernandez and Ms. Barimah presented a proposal generated by the Finance Committee for approval. It consisted of:

- The 2017 budget, which would include a 4% salary increase for all non-instructional staff, a math consultant, an IT consultant, and \$30,000 for curriculum work;
- Masters +30;
- Contract date change: contracts will now start October 30th and February 29th as opposed to September 30th and January 30th.
 - Mr. Rivera made a Motion to approve the recommendations from the Finance Committee. Mr. Bello seconded. All were in favor.

3. ACADEMIC REPORT

(a) Ms. Gaffney presented:

- Graduation Statistics: 83% of seniors are graduating this year, which is the highest WCHS has had. By August it is projected that 90% of seniors will have graduated.
- Regents: The scores from this year show major progress; Algebra 1 and 2 as well as Geometry have all increased. The Board congratulated staff for their hard work this year.
- Vacancies: There are still a number of vacancies and Ms. Barimah is working to fill them.

The Board thanked Ms. Gaffney for her dedication to WCHS and commended her hard work throughout her tenure as Principal.

(b) Disciplinary Actions

The Board met prior to the meeting to discuss disciplinary actions for students who participated in a senior prank.

4. GOVERNANCE

Mr. Bello announced his resignation from the Board. Mr. Cardarelli expressed that he would be resigning in the near future. The Board thanked Mr. Bello for his service. Both he and Mr. Cardarelli agreed to help if needed in the future.

(a) Election of 2016-2017 Board Officers

Ballots were handed out, voting occurred, and the Election Committee collected all votes. The Executive Officers for the 2016 – 2017 Board of Trustees as voted are:

- Chair – Lourdes Rivera-Putz
- Vice Chair – Samuel Rivera
- Treasurer – John Witherspoon
- Secretary – Charles Hobson

Committees:

- Education – Lourdes Rivera-Putz and Marcenia Johnson
- Accountability and Finance – Samuel Rivera and Joseph Cardarelli
- Development and Fundraising – Samuel Rivera and Charles Hobson
- Committee on Trustees – Charles Hobson and Marcenia Johnson
- Executive – Elected Executive Officers

(b) Board Meeting Dates 2016 – 2017

Ms. Manion will send a Google Form with tentative dates for the upcoming year. Meetings are currently scheduled to be the third Tuesday of each month.

(c) Principal Search Committee

Ms. Eagen summarized the Principal Search Committee process for the Board. She explained that the posting was created, focused on the key skills identified by the Board. The Assistant Principals, Principals and HR vetted the posting. A Principal Search Committee was created; it consisted of teachers, staff, and administration who volunteered to participate. The subcommittee assessed the paperwork of 30 candidates based on a rubric that tracked the key skills identified in the posting. Candidates provided a resume, educational philosophy and cover letter. The top four candidates were vetted by phone by the Board and School Counsel. Out of the top four selected, two were chosen to visit the school and meet with a sub-committee of administration who created their own rubric to evaluate the conversation. One of those candidates, Ms. Williams, was asked to come in to provide a short demo for staff. More feedback will be collected at that time. Ms. Williams will also be invited to meet a subcommittee of parents and students. Further the candidate's references will be contacted. The Board will make a definitive decision after the demo and a review of further feedback/evaluation. Another candidate is being considered for a curriculum or math consultant opportunity.

Ms. Sosa announced that she is graduating and that it has been an honor to serve as Student Representative. She said that she has learned a lot and thanked the Board for including her.

5. APPROVAL OF MAY BOARD MINUTES

Ms. Putz asked to remove James Lema's name from "Excused" because he was no longer on the Board.

- Mr. Rivera made a motion to approve the May Board Minutes with the amendment. Mr. Hobson seconded. Mr. Bello and Mr. Cardarelli abstained. All the rest were in favor.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bello made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Witherspoon seconded. All were in favor.