



MINUTES
Board of Trustees Meeting
May 15, 2018

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

PRESENT

Lourdes Putz, Chair
Manuel Morales, Trustee
John Witherspoon, Trustee
Karl Richards, Staff Rep.
Christopher Francis, Stud. Rep.

GUESTS

Tanishia Williams, Principal
Mary Kenny, Minutes Transcriber
Shante Martin, Staff
Amaryllis Valentin, Staff
Angelica Romero, Staff
Lester Samson, Staff
Raymond James, Staff
Kathy Fernandez, Staff

Ellen Eagen, Att. *via Beam*
Kate Manion, Staff
Ryan Fuller, Staff
Joseph DeMarco, Staff
Melissa Wade, Staff
Angelica Romero, Staff
Chris Morris, Staff

EXCUSED

Charles Hobson, Trustee; Samuel Rivera, Vice Chair; Evans Barreau, Parent Rep

1. WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 6:11pm.

2. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

The Board reviewed and edited the April 24, 2018 Minutes.

- Mr. Witherspoon made a Motion to approve the April 24, 2018 Board Minutes. Mr. Morales seconded. All were in favor.

3. BURNING FLAME AWARD

Ms. Shante Martin presented the Burning Flame Award to Ryan Fuller, a Senior Advisor and Social Studies teacher. Ms. Martin stated that staff always find him enjoyable and easy to work with.

4. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Christopher Francis reported on the "Uni-forum". 60 students attended a meeting in order to discuss the current uniform and future uniform options.

5. STAFF REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Karl Richards reported that he created a suggestion box and encouraged everyone to utilize it. He will bring all ideas back to the Board.

6. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

a) College Office Update

Amaryllis Valentin reported that students have received 547 total college acceptances. 105 students have a post-graduation plan. 682 students took the SATs.

b) Bell Schedule

Ms. Williams presented the 2018-2019 bell schedule. The 75 minute period proposed in April was shortened to 60 minutes. The rotation has been eliminated. The school day will be divided into nine periods and Advisory will meet during lunch periods. Ms. Eagen asked what the benefit of meeting during lunch is and Ms. Williams

explained that it allows the School to better monitor the hallways. Students will receive two credits for Advisory over the course of the year.

- Mr. Witherspoon made a motion to adopt the 2018-2019 Bell Schedule. Mr. Morales seconded. All were in favor.

c) 2018-2019 Calendar

Ms. Williams reviewed the 2018-2019 calendar presented at the April meeting. It consists of 182 school days and 196 staff days.

- Mr. Witherspoon made a motion to adopt the 2018-2019 Calendar. Mr. Morales seconded. All were in favor.

d) Summer Calendar

Ms. Williams reviewed the summer calendar which will run from July 5 through August 14. The School will host APEX, but not summer school. Students will have the option to attend summer schools at nearby DOE high schools. The building will be closed from June 27 through July 3 and from July 30 to August 3. The school will be cleaned during this time. Summer staff will be allowed to take four flex days over the course of the summer, save for during specific blackout days, which will be announced at a later time. All departments will have to be covered at all times.

- Mr. Witherspoon made a motion to adopt the 2018 Summer Calendar. Mr. Morales seconded. All were in favor.

5. RECRUITMENT AND ENROLLMENT

a) Enrollment

Shante Martin reported that both PowerSchool and ATS show 946 students. The FTE is 936. Ms. Martin met with Donny Brusca and they concluded that these numbers should remain the same for the rest of the year.

b) Recruitment

Ms. Martin stated that 208 Freshmen are registered and 42 are in progress. The School will meet its goal if all “in progress” registrations are completed.

c) STAR Testing

Incoming Freshmen are participating in STAR Testing and elective registration.

6. FINANCE

a) Pay Scale

Mr. Morales said he met with the Finance Department to review pay scales for teachers, social workers, and counselors. After discussing with the Board, the School has decided to increase those salaries by 5%. He said that we were not going to use the current salary ladder. We would consider moving forward and developing our own ladder next year that did not rely on any one district’s rubric. He said it did not make sense to use the DOE salary ladder when this was negotiated through the collective bargaining unit which we are not a party of.

- Mr. Morales made a motion approving a 5% increase in teacher, social worker and counselor pay. Mr. Witherspoon seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Fernandez reviewed the monthly finances. She said that in preparation for the renewal year, BoostEd will be assisting the Finance Department with the budget and purchase of the building.

b) Finance Report

As of March 31, 2018 revenue is \$11,780,250. Expenses are \$11,576,810. There is a surplus of \$203,440.

7. FACILITIES AND SAFETY

a) Facilities

Mr. James reported on building conditions. Heating units are shut down for the summer. No vandalism incidents have been reported. The Facilities Department is preparing for summer cleaning. FDNY inspected the property and no violations were issued.

b) Safety

Off-site incidents continue to be an issue. There were two in-school student altercations. Two new proposals were submitted for contracted security. The special armed guard coverage has been suspended.

8. ACCOUNTABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Manion reported that the NYSED Board of Regents has chosen to accept WCHS as a School. They will begin authorizing us on July 1.

She also reported that the School has recently donated space to the local community. Educated Little Monsters, a music organization displaced by the closing of the local venue, Silent Barn, will be utilizing a few classrooms after school while the school is open. Former student, Ray Persaud, will be filming an anti-gun violence performance art piece in one of our classrooms. The School is also donating the Cafetorium to P.S. 145 so that the middle school can hold a prom for their graduating students.

Ms. Manion stated that she and Ms. Eagen are planning for charter renewal. She reminded the Board that the next meeting will be the Board's Annual Meeting and that elections will need to be held.

9. ADJOURNMENT

- Mr. Witherspoon made a Motion to adjourn. Mr. Morales seconded. All were in Favor.