



MINUTES
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 22, 2022

The meeting was held via Google Meets at 6:07pm.

PRESENT

Lourdes Putz, Chair
Samuel Rivera, Trustee
John Witherspoon, Trustee
Ahmad Duwaik, Trustee
Kathleen Gaffney, Trustee

GUESTS

Jahi Bashir, Head of School
Mary Kenny, Minutes Transcriber
Over 31 Virtual Participants

Val Jacobson, Head of Operations

1. WELCOME

Ms. Putz welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 15, 2022 BOARD MINUTES

- Mr. Rivera made a motion to approve the February Board Minutes pending school counsel review. Mr. Witherspoon seconded. Ms. Gaffney abstained. All others were in favor.

Mr. Bashir stated that Trimester 3 has started. He is working on the 2022-23 Course Catalog and scheduling for the upcoming year. 26 students (not including 5th year students) have been approved for remote instruction. Attendance for in-person instruction has improved. School climate and culture initiatives include rewarding positive student behavior, student activities, and a March Madness team building advisory competition. Mr. Bashir announced that the boys basketball team would be competing at the Barclays Center on March 28 and invited everyone to attend.

Katherine R., a student delegate from the Model UN trip, spoke about her positive experiences on the trip. The WCHS team participated in high-level debates in a public forum, researched Latin American countries, and familiarized themselves with various cultures around the world.

143 seniors are currently on track to graduate, an additional 56 may graduate with recovery options. 31/52 5th year students are actively engaged and are working towards graduation. Four students graduated in January. The College and Career Office continues to send out a weekly newsletter, host college and career readiness classes, and accompany students on college visits. Students will be attending a college fair on April 25 at St. Francis College. 138 students applied to CUNY, 82 students applied to SUNY and/or private colleges. 98 students have been accepted into one or more colleges so far. Student acceptances are being recognized on WCHS social media.

4. OPERATIONS

Ms. Jacobson reported that FY22 Per Pupil Billing Invoice #6 has been submitted with an FTE of 950.815 awaiting approval. Ms. Jacobson collaborated with instructional staff to prepare for Regents field testing, AP Exams, and NYSESLAT testing. PSAT/SAT exams will take place this week. She also collaborated with Counseling, SNAS, ENL, and LOTE Departments to prepare June Regents Exam orders, schedule proctor training, create schedules, assign rooms, and assign testing accommodations for June 1, June 15-23 Regents exams. Operations staff are preparing for the 2022-23 admissions lottery that will be held on April 4. Trimester 3 student schedules went out and report cards will be issued this week. The 2022-23 school year calendar is also being drafted. The Operations team continues to promote the NYC School Surveys. 979/1,294 laptops are loaned out to students. 51 laptops have been reported lost. 127/250 hotspots have been distributed to students.

5. CDC LOCAL COVID DATA

Ms. Jacobson stated that the COVID transmission in Kings County continues to be low. The percent of people who test positive and the number of confirmed or probable cases is increasing. The seven day percent positive average in 11206 is

3.4%. 60.58% of 11206 is considered fully vaccinated. Of the tested cases in NYC, 85% are Omicron (BA.2 subvariant), and 15% are Omicron (non-BA.2).

6. COVID PREPAREDNESS

Ms. Manion reported that COVID protocols and weekly testing continue to be in place. At-home COVID tests will be sent home with students prior to Spring Break. Vaccination education continues.

7. FACILITIES

Mr. Morales updated the Board on the building next door and displayed architect renderings of the interior and exterior. The school will be filing with the Department of Buildings at the end of the month. Air quality and noise level samples are being prepared for submission to the Board of Standard and Appeals.

Mr. James reported that the Department of Health responded to the school on March 7 and issued a violation for issues in the kitchen requiring service. All but one issue has been corrected. The final item will be corrected on Saturday, March 26. The National Grid visited the school on March 1 to check on a service issue at 188 Varet Street. The school has an upcoming hearing with the FDNY ECB Department on March 29 for two unwarranted alarms that were transmitted during the school's water main leak. New thermostat covers were placed throughout the building and thermostats are presently on timers. Heat is still being utilized at this time.

8. SAFETY

Mr. James reported that there were six student altercations on-site in March. Three altercations took place off property. The NYPD responded to the school for one student issue. EMS responded to the school for two separate issues. Bag checks were conducted throughout the month. There were no findings resulting in disciplinary action. The school will be installing new cameras in blind areas around the school and will be upgrading the recording storage.

9. ENROLLMENT AND RECRUITMENT

Enrollment is 970 in PowerSchool and ATS. The FTE is 950.815. The 2022-23 Admissions Lottery will take place on April 4 at 6pm via Zoom. SchoolMint applications are comparable to previous years. To this date, 597 applications have been received and 29 have been verified. 10 people attended the March Open House - 17 are currently RSVP'd for the next open house on April 2. This one will be held in person. The deadline for lottery applications is April 1. Recruitment efforts continue. Spanish speaking radio ads and Bushwick bus ads will continue through April 3.

10. FINANCE

Ms. Fernandez reported that the total collected revenue for this period is \$10,592,544 and the total expenses are \$10,458,012. Excess revenue over expenses are \$134,532. The Board reviewed assets and liabilities, including the deferred rent.

11. ACCOUNTABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms Manion reported that the CRDC federal accountability submission was submitted on time. She thanked Mr. Richards, the Academy Leaders, and Ms. Cruz for assisting. Information regarding the school's spring check-in visit should be coming soon from SED. Open Meetings Law remote meetings have been extended through April 15. This is the final extension and all Board meetings after April 15 will be required to be held in person. She is working with Ms. Jacobson, Ms. Fernandez, and CSBM to complete upcoming ARP-ESSER deadlines, including the ARP-Homeless Children and Youth (HCY) Part II Application due March 31, the Education Stabilization Fund Reporting due April 1, and the 2022-23 Annual Survey of Charter School Enrollments and Poverty Status due April 15.

The WCHS Holiday party will be held on April 1 at Pine Box from 3:30-7:30pm. A letter will be sent home to parents regarding inappropriate posting to social media accounts. Borough President Reynoso will not be able to speak at graduation in June. Ms. Johnson and Ms. Manion are pursuing a WCHS alumni instead. A film crew is interested in using the space in August.

12. PARENT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Ms. Pink reported that the next PLC meeting will be held on March 14 at 6pm. Los Sures will be the guest speaker and will be addressing teen violence and aggressive behavior. A representative from the SUNY Brooklyn Educational Opportunity Center (BEOC) will also be present to discuss careers in OSHA, security, the medical field, and hospitality.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Gaffney made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Duwaik seconded. All were in favor.