

Approved Board Meeting Minutes

April 26th, 2022

5:00pm

Board Attendance: Tatum Boothe, Nicole Barzey, James Ding, Cameil Dalgetty-Jarvis, Gerald Karikari, Michael Van Sertima

Staff Attendance: Adrian Manuel, Zenzile Keith, Yolanda Valerio, Charles Watterson, Linyu Zheng

Ms. Dalgetty-Jarvis called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Public Comment:

Public comment was not provided.

Respond to prior public comment: N/A

Agenda/objective:

I. Opening Items

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| A. Call the Meeting to Order | Ms. Dalgetty-Jarvis |
| B. Record Attendance | Ms. Dalgetty-Jarvis |
| C. Public Comment and response to prior month's comment | Ms. Dalgetty-Jarvis |

Agenda/objective:

II. Consent Agenda

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| A. Approve board meeting minutes | Ms. Dalgetty-Jarvis |
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Discussion:

Ms. Dalgetty-Jarvis made a correction to the 3/29/2022 Board Meeting minute.

Ms. Dalgetty-Jarvis announced the board will vote on the 1/25/2021 board meeting minutes at the next board meeting.

Vote on approve the 3/29/2022 Board Meeting minutes for the previous board meeting:

1. Ms. Barzey made a motion to approve the 3/29/2022 board meeting minutes
2. Ms. Dalgetty-Jarvis seconded the motion.
3. The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

Agenda/objective:

II. Consent Agenda

A. Executive Director Report

Dr. Manuel

Dr. Manuel and Mr. Moreau shared the following:

Stability: Enrollment & Lottery

- Current Enrollment: 534
- Merrick's 2022-23 SY Lottery was conducted on April 2nd with 312 applications. 217 students were selected across grades K-4.
- Total budget for the winter/spring lottery campaign and process was \$15,350 (\$7,328 under budget)
- Teacher Intent to return surveys completed with a 94% positive response.

Stability: Intent to Return & Staffing

- Teacher Intent to return surveys completed with a 94% positive response.
- Chief Operating Officer (COO) position filled
- Upcoming postings for key roles: Chief Academic Officer, STEAM Director, Math Director, Literacy Director, Guidance Counselor, Development Director, and Data Specialist, Director of School Culture and Attendance Teacher (all contingent on approval of 2022-23 SY budget)

Introducing Mr. Rael Jones

- Mr. Jones will oversee the operations team at Merrick (enrollment, facilities, technology, food services, transportation, security and business practices)
- 15 years of professional experience in social work and school operations.
- Currently in the role of Senior Director of Operations at Bronx Charter School of Excellence network where he manages operations for 3 schools.
- Mr. Jones will officially start at Merrick on May 23rd!

Academic updates:

- NYS ELA Exam administered at the end of March
- NYS Math exam administered April 26-27th
- ANET Math and ELA was administered in mid March
- Merrick hosted Saturday Academies and both a winter and spring break learning program in ELA and Math to support students
- Moving from ANET at NWEA assessments for the 2022-23 school year.

Summer boost grants:

- \$50 Million Dollar fund launched to support summer school programs for NYC charters.
- Schools can be awarded up to \$2,000 per student (for up to 1/3 of total enrollment) to fund a ELA and Math summer program efforts to close learning gaps.
- Merrick will be applying this week and should hear back within the next two weeks!

This year's summer program will be based on four areas: Academics (ELA/Math), STEAM Enrichment/Exposure, Athletics, and Social/Emotional Development

2022-23 Budget Draft and Leadership priorities

- 2022-23 Budget Draft will be shared at the May Finance/Operations Committee

- Meeting for review and discussion prior to board vote in June.
- Draft is based on 575 student enrollment target. The core investments are focused on four key strategic goals.

Agenda/objective:

II. Consent Agenda

A. Student Support Report

Ms. Keith

Ms. Keith shared the following:

COVID and SAFETY UPDATES

- April's COVID rate is one of the lowest for the school year, comparable to October and February.
- Staff and student testing continues on a weekly basis.

Vaccine UPDATES

- Held the first round of COVID Vaccines on site for family and staff.
- As of December January 2022 we had 25 parents self-report that their children were fully vaccinated.
- As of April 8th we had 118 students whose parents reported that their child received at least one dose of the Pfizer vaccine.

Vision Testing

- On 4/11-4/12 K-1st grade students participated in the annual DOH eye screening exam.
- 180 (99%) students took the exam
- 62 (34%) students failed the exam and were sent home with referrals.

Agenda/objective:

II. Consent Agenda

A. Academic Performance Report

Mr. Watterson

Mr. Watterson shared the following:

Exam schedule

- April 26-28-Math (Happening NOW)
- May 24-June 3rd-Science Performance test
- June 6- Science Written
- April 11-May 20-NYSESLAT (speaking)
- May 9-May 20-NYSESLAT (Listening, Reading & Writing)

Exam Preparations

- After School Program
- Test Prep
- Teacher PD

Instructional Program Updates

- Curriculum implementation updates
- Update on Observations

Agenda/objective:

VI. Adjournment

Ms. Dalgetty-Jarvis

Executive session:

1. Ms. Dalgetty-Jarvis made a motion to enter Executive Session at 6:23 pm to discuss statistical issues.
2. Ms. Boothe seconded the motion.
3. The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

Meeting adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.