APPROVED

New Heights Academy Charter School

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday August 29, 2024 at 8:00 PM

Location
1818 Amsterdam Avenue
New York, NY 10031

Trustees Present
A. Vasquez, D. Ortiz, M. Vargas

Trustees Absent
Q. McLain

Guests Present
Fred Givens, K. Valbrun, L. Garcia, Tiffany Wilson, W. Ramos

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

A. Vasquez called a meeting of the board of trustees of New Heights Academy Charter School to order on Thursday Aug 29, 2024 at 8:28 PM.

II. Community Comments

A. Wendy Ramos shared the upcoming calendar of events:

1. September 3-6: Tech Pickup and Orientation Meetings with Families & Students
2. September 9: First Day of School
3. September 13: Back-to-School Carnival Block Party (1:00 PM - 3:00 PM)
4. September 25: Back-to-School Night & Bailando (Latinx Celebration)
5. September 26-27: Senior Retreat

B. Tiffany Wilson provided an update on the afterschool partnerships currently being developed.

III. Appove Minutes

A. Approve Minutes

A. Vasquez made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 07-23-24.
D. Ortiz seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

IV. Academic Update

A. Charter Renewal

A. Vasquez made a motion to Approve the charter renewal.
D. Ortiz seconded the motion.
The charter revisions and the executive summary were reviewed.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

B. Resolution to Eliminate Grade 5

A. Vasquez made a motion to Truncate 5th grade, however reduce the overall enrollment # to 740.
D. Ortiz seconded the motion.
The board discussed lowering the total enrollment number from 765 to 740.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

V. Finance

A. Audit Update

Li'Esha Garcia shared that the audit is in progress. The school is on target to meet the November deadline.

VI. Other Business

A.

Retreat Follow-Up

The board reviewed the outstanding questions from the July retreat:

- What are the top priority areas that you would like to work on as a board?
- How can the school support?
- How would you hold yourself accountable?

Response: The board emphasized the urgency of recruiting members with legal and financial expertise. They also expressed their availability to screen potential candidates who have shown interest. Wendy Ramos will assist in coordinating the screening calls.

B. Executive Session

A. Vasquez made a motion to Enter Executive Session.
D. Ortiz seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.
The board discussed:

- Student performance on the NYS ELA and Math assessments for grades 5-8 was reviewed, along with the results of the NYS Regents and AP exams; and
- Compensation bonus for the former Executive Director.

C. Conclude Executive Session

A. Vasquez made a motion to Exit Executive Session.
D. Ortiz seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
W. Ramos