

DRAFT



# Inwood Academy for Leadership Charter School

## Minutes

### March Board of Trustees Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Tuesday March 17, 2026 at 7:00 PM

#### Location

433 West 204th Street, New York, NY 10034

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All board addresses were posted 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

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#### Trustees Present

J. Looney (remote), K. Drezner (remote), K. Mangual (remote), K. Smith (remote), M. Rosenthal (remote), S. Santo (remote)

#### Trustees Absent

C. Talero, J. Almonte, R. Khamis, S. Mlynar, V. Singh

#### Guests Present

A. Rodriguez (remote), B. Mercedes, C. Reyes, G. Thiyagarajah (remote), J. Pichardo, K. Cuateco (remote), N. Polanco

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### I. Opening Items

#### A. Record Attendance

#### B. Call the Meeting to Order

M. Rosenthal called a meeting of the board of trustees of Inwood Academy for Leadership Charter School to order on Tuesday Mar 17, 2026 at 7:08 PM.

### C. Approve Minutes

M. Rosenthal made a motion to approve the minutes from February Board of Trustees Meeting on 02-24-26.

J. Looney seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## II. Academic Accountability

### A. K-12 Progress Towards Goals

G. Thiyagarajah presented the following Elementary School update to the board:

- Attendance: 91% YTD (on track); 41% chronic absenteeism remains a key concern
- Academics (K–2):
  - ELA: Strong growth (16% → 44% on grade level); on track for 65% goal
  - Math: Growth (5% → 37% on grade level); trending toward goal
- Strengths: Strong early literacy gains, effective phonics instruction, solid K teacher retention
- Risks: New student enrollment, 1st/2nd grade staffing consistency
- Focus: Small-group intervention, phonics/numeracy reinforcement, continued literacy acceleration

K. Cuateco presented the following Middle School update to the board:

- Attendance: 92% YTD; 36% chronic absenteeism
- ELA (Grades 5–8): On track for 45% proficiency, but many students still below grade level
- Math (Grades 5–7):
  - Grade 5 on track
  - Grades 6–7 at risk of missing proficiency targets
- Strengths: Data-driven instruction, targeted interventions, improved movement toward grade level
- Risks: High number of students starting far below grade level, staffing transitions
- Focus: Tier 2/3 interventions, state test prep, vocabulary + writing (ELA), key standards coverage (Math)

A. Rodriguez presented the following High School update to the board:

- Attendance: 89% YTD; 39% chronic absenteeism
- Graduation: 75% projected vs. 87% goal → At Risk
  - Main barrier = credit accumulation (not Regents)
- Regents Performance:

- English Regents: On track (68% projected vs. 72% goal)
- Algebra I: At risk (32% projected vs. 52% goal)
- 8th Grade Algebra I: Off track (49% avg; 39% pass projection)
- Strengths: Strong Regents completion rates, improved Q1→Q2 growth, targeted senior supports
- Risks: Credit gaps, attendance issues, Algebra performance, staffing transitions
- Focus: Credit recovery, Regents prep, targeted intervention for borderline students, weekly graduation tracking

### **III. Finance and Facilities Committee Update**

#### **A. To update the Board on Lottery Applications, Finance and Facilities Items..**

J. Pichardo presented the following to the board:

- Enrollment is stable at 912 students K–12
- Higher than last months number
- Backfilling of seats has stopped for time being

### **IV. 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 8:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
M. Rosenthal