



Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday October 27, 2015 at 6:00 PM

Location

82 Lewis Avenue

Trustees Present

Angel Charriez, Cecelia Russo, Joseph Sciame, Kevin Nesbitt, Leticia Theodore-Greene, Marlena Mondesir, Patricia Bramwell, Victor Rivera

Trustees Absent

None

Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened

Angel Charriez, Kevin Nesbitt

Ex Officio Members Present

Nicholas Tishuk

Non Voting Members Present

Nicholas Tishuk

Guests Present

Vicky D'Anjou-Pomerleau

I. Opening Items

A.

Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Joseph Sciame called a meeting of the board of trustees of Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools to order on Tuesday Oct 27, 2015 at 6:02 PM.

The Chairman greeted Fr. Aster Rodriguez, the Pastor of SJB, to the meeting. Fr. Rodriguez commented on the improved condition of the facility.

C. Approve Minutes

Patricia Bramwell made a motion to approve minutes from the Board Meeting on 09-28-15 Board Meeting on 09-28-15.

Marlena Mondesir seconded the motion.

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

6-0-2 (Mr. Charriez and Nesbitt absent.).

II. Presentation by Auditors

A. BSNBCS Annual Audit by Fruchter and Rosen: Gus Saliba Presents

Mr. Saliba of Fruchter & Rosen reported on the annual audit materials and process. While the Finance Committee has reviewed the materials, the Board will need to approve the materials before issuance of the final reports. No materially adverse findings were found. Positive financial trends were reported and a modified clean opinion will be issued.

Kevin Nesbitt arrived.

Mr. Nesbitt arrived at 6:20 pm.

Angel Charriez arrived.

Mr. Charriez arrived at 6:25.

III. Update on School Status

A. Report from the Executive Committee

There was no report.

B. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Tishuk reported on the updated financial information for the FY 2014/15. He then reported on the projection for FY 2015/16. While the projections are slightly higher than previously reported, they are based on increased compensation for staff (new hires) and increased salaries for staff with expanded roles. He noted that the School is in good shape financially with adequate cash reserves in the bank. Mr. Tishuk noted that increases in expenses for marketing were due to expected increased staff and student recruiting efforts and discussed how the success of those efforts were being measured. Cecelia Russo made a motion to adopt the ED's proposed initial budget for FY 2015/16. Angel Charriez seconded the motion.

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

C. Report from the Finance and Operations Committee

Nothing additional to report.

D. Report from the Education Committee

Ms. Russo reported on the departure of third grade teachers to other jobs and their replacements. There was also discussion on confusion regarding the possibility of availability of space for the Girl Scouts and how to address the communication gap. Ms. Russo further noted the difficulty of dealing with minutes on Board on Track. Mr. Rivera noted that the minutes would be supplemented, but not as detailed as previously. Ms. Russo reported that Mr. Thomas will be joining BSNBCS scholars will be going to the SJU campus on Dec. 1. Ms. Pagan told the Board that the Prom will be on 5/25 from 4:00 - 8:00 pm. She further advised that the likely site of the graduation would be St. Francis, which had preliminarily approved the date, but the actual reservation can't be booked until January. The senior trip will be to Philadelphia and they are looking at options for events while there.

E. Report from the Engagement and Outreach Committee

Mr. Nesbitt reported that, in addition to the SJU trip, he was working with Mr. Thomas for trips to John Jay and Hunter. On behalf of Ms. Adames, a non-attending parent, Mr. Nesbitt asked two questions regarding year end staff turnover and asked what the next teacher appreciation event would be. Mr. Sciame asked if there was a way to provide parents data regarding teacher turnover at the end of the year. Mr. Nesbitt and Mr. Rivera wondered if that data, reported in context, would educate the parents as to the normalcy of the attrition rate. Ms. Mondesir wondered about the lack of followup with respect to the last meeting regarding a teacher appreciation event. Ms. D'Anjou-Pomerleau noted that she would follow up. A parent asked about notifications when parents leave. Ms. Del Sherpa noted that the parents of affected students were advised of the 3rd Grade by letter. Mr. Tishuk reported on the October Parent Breakfast, attended by 24 parents.

F. Report from the Development Committee

Ms. Theodore-Green talked about the participatory budgeting discussions with Ms. D'Anjou-Pomerleau and the specific items that budgeting could be sought for, such as the pool and roof top play spaces. Two architects have come to the building and will provide proposals for submittal designs. Ms. Theodore-Green further stated that she was following up with Councilman Cornegy regarding a date to visit the School. Mr. Tishuk noted that he had made inroads with respect to a partnership with the Brooklyn Nets and the Barclays Center.

IV. Old Business

A.

New parent member

Ms. Mondesir reminded the Board that she would no longer be the parent member after her term expires in June 2016. The Board thought that the matter should be discussed after a procedure was to recruit potential new members was discussed.

V. New Business

A. Future Budget Restraints

Mr. Sciamme noted that the School going forward would have significant monetary reserves and stated that the Board should look at whether or not restraints of any type should be imposed on budget expenditures going forward.

VI. Public Comments

A. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VII. Closing Items

A. Vote to go into Executive Session

Cecelia Russo made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and potential Board member investigation issues and to discuss the possible completion of the Comptroller's audit and a possible school safety issue.

Leticia Theodore-Greene seconded the motion.

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

B. Vote to return to Open Meeting

Victor Rivera made a motion to leave the executive session and go back into open session.

Angel Charriez seconded the motion.

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

C. Updates on Executive session discussion

D. Rescheduled November Meeting

Mr. Sciamme rescheduled the November meeting to November 16, 2015. The Board Members should arrive at 5:30 pm to tour the school with Mr. Tishuk.

E. Adjourn Meeting

Kevin Nesbitt made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Cecelia Russo seconded the motion.

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:11 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Victor Rivera