APPROVED

Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools

Minutes

Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday May 21, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Location
82 Lewis Avenue, Brooklyn, NY

Trustees Present
Cecelia Russo, Doris Givens, John Matos, Kevin Nesbitt, Shawn Carson, Victor Rivera, Vishal Gupta

Trustees Absent
Cynthia Aker, Joseph Sciame, Simone Pratt

Ex Officio Members Present
Nicholas Tishuk

Guests Present
Brian Blough, Lisa-Renée Brown, Patricia Bramwell

I. Opening Items

A. **Record Attendance and Guests**

B.

Call the Meeting to Order

Victor Rivera called a meeting of the board of trustees of Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools to order on Wednesday May 21, 2025 at 6:02 PM.

C. Approve April 23rd Meeting Minutes

Doris Givens made a motion to approve the minutes from Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools Board Meeting on 04-23-25.
Kevin Nesbitt seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Academic and Family Life Committee

A. Committee Update

HS Principal Brian Blough presented to the Board on our academics K-10. We have a 8th grade graduation/stepping up ceremony at Medgar Evers College, to which all Trustees are invited. We had both a Boys Summit and Girls Summit in the last month and we continue our recruiting effots across the board in grades K-10.

Mr. Blough shared several items specific to the high school, including direct activities recruiting local middle schools, our Commitment Activities for rising 8th graders and additional programming. The Board asked clarifying questions around enrollment practices, the lottery and the rest of the student recruitment framework. Chair Cecelia directed Trustees to the school's website for further information.

III. Governance Committee

A. Committee Update

The Board discussed the evolution of the school(s) and Board since the initial founding team's work which began in 2009. Chair Victor Rivera, a founding member, expressed his confidence in the new Officers and their capacity to continue the effective work of the school.

Committee Chair Doris Givens discussed the work she has engaged with the new trustees related to the Trustee handbook and the roles and responsibilities of Trustees.

Chair Victor Rivera discussed the two Board awards provided for two 8th grade students who are matriculating from 8th grade into high school: one academic and one THRIVE award. Victor announced that the THRIVE Award will be designated as the Patricia A. Bramwell Community THRIVE Award.

B.

Officer Elections for 2025-26

Cecelia Russo made a motion to approve the resolution as written for the following nominations of officers for 2025-26: Treasurer John Matos, Secretary Doris Givens, Vice Chair Shawn Carson and Chair Kevin Nesbitt.
Vishal Gupta seconded the motion.
Chair Doris Givens presented the resolution to elect new officers for the 2025-26 school year. The following nominations have been accepted: Treasurer John Matos, Secretary Doris Givens, Vice Chair Shawn Carson and Chair Kevin Nesbitt.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Finance Committee

A. Finance Committee Update

Chief Finance Officer Lisa-Renee Brown updated the Board on the school's finances. She updated Board on the school's general and special education enrollment, current balances and expenses.

Academic Committee Chair Cecelia Russo explained to the Board that the school has a practice of providing all needed services to support student learning, including at-risk services, despite any delays in the process of NYC's Committees on Special Education. Eventually, changes to student funding will occur once codified by by an Individual Education Plan.

Executive Director Nicholas Tishuk present the Fiscal Year 2026 budget to the Board. Trustees asked clarifying questions on revenue assumptions and expenditures, including our compensation and benefits structure, the expenditures on student marketing.

Secretary Doris Givens updated the Board on the upcoming event on May 30th honoring the legacy of friend of the school Dirk Tillotson, to be held at the High School Campus.

B. Vote on Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

Shawn Carson made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year FY26 Budget as presented.
Kevin Nesbitt seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Public Comments

A. Public comments

There were no public comments.
Victor Rivera made a motion to to move into Executive Session to discuss Legal/Personnel matters.
Shawn Carson seconded the motion.

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

VI. 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 7:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Doris Givens

Documents used during the meeting

- May 15 ^J2025 AFL Committee Mtg.pdf
- Resolution For Board Officers 5-21-25.pdf