APPROVED

Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools

Minutes

Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday June 18, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Location
82 Lewis Avenue, Brooklyn, NY

Trustees Present
Cecelia Russo, Doris Givens, John Matos, Joseph Sciame, Shawn Carson, Simone Pratt, Victor Rivera

Trustees Absent
Cynthia Aker, Kevin Nesbitt, Vishal Gupta

Ex Officio Members Present
Nicholas Tishuk

Guests Present
Brian Blough, Lamar Renee Garcia, 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 Jun 18, 2025 at 6:06 PM.
Executive Director Ncholas Tishuk acknowledged the transition of Board Chair Victor Rivera to Kevin Rivera and thanked Victor's for his efforts in founding the school and his work in the past five years as Board Chair.

C. Approve May Meeting Minutes

Shawn Carson made a motion to approve the minutes from Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools Board Meeting on 05-21-25.
John Matos seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Academic and Family Life Committee

A. Committee Update

Committee Chair Cecelia Russo acknowledged the work of the School Management Team this school year and their work to have a successful opening of BSNBCS2.

Principal Garcia updated the board on the work of the K-8 team, including the community celebrations happening this Friday on the final day of classes for students. She updated the Board on our summer program, which is very popular with families and we are currently at maximum capacity for summer school.

Principal Blough updated the board on the High School, including the Summer College Bound program and our internship framework over the summer. He updated that our final Regents exam in Algebra was given for our inaugural year. Summer school is July 7th to August 1st, including several College visits, our Drones event and our athletics programming at McCarren Park.

Chair Russo acknowledged Principal Garcia's upcoming enrollment in a Doctoral program and Principal Blough's defense later this year of his PhD dissertation.

III. Governance Committee

A. Committee Update

Committee Chair Doris Givens Updated the Board on the work of the Governance committee including the needs to review the Board's policies addressing the Open Meetings Law and establishing the Board Calendar Monthly Meetings Calendar for 2025-26.

Chair Rivera reiterated the importance of meetings in-person for the school's history and the Board discussed its interest in updating its policies to allow videoconferencing.

Committee Chair Doris Givens updated the Board on the development work of the Board, including attendance at an event at the high school celebrating the Life and legacy of Dirk Tillotson, an education activist and civil rights attorney. Executive Director Nicholas Tishuk reported back on the event, including a scholarship in his name and the dedication of the Dirk Tillotson Memorial Student Hub at the High School.

B. Board Policies Update

Joseph Sciame made a motion to approve the Resolution Addressing the Open Meetings Law.
Shawn Carson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Vote on Board Calendar 2025-26

Doris Givens made a motion to to approve the 2025-26 school calendar.
Cecelia Russo seconded the motion.
Dates for the 2025-26 School Year

July 31st 1:00 PM
August 20th 6:00 PM
September 17th 6:00 PM
October 15th 6:00 PM
November 19th 6:00 PM
December 17th 6:00 PM
January 21st 6:00 PM
February 25th 6:00 PM
March 18th 6:00 PM
April 15th 6:00 PM
May 20th 6:00 PM
June 17th 6:00 PM

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
Joseph Sciame made a motion to approve the District Safety Plan for 2025-26.
John Matos seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Finance Committee

A. Finance Committee Update

CFO Lisa-Renee Brown updated the Board on the work of the Finance Committee, including end of year bank balances, enrollments and projections. Cecelia asked for clarifications regarding the large grant for the Summer program from Bloomberg Philantrophies.

Executive Director Nicholas Tishuk updated the Board on the new posting this morning for the Charter Schools Program grant, which BSNBCS2 is eligible for. The maximum grant amount for this competitive grant proposal is $2MM over a three year period.

V. Public Comments

A. Public comments

Patricia Bramwell commented on the importance of the School keeping in touch with its graduates and encouraging them in their journey towards college and other post-secondary options. Joseph Sciame talked about the important work and Shawn Carson reiterated this being an important metric of school success as our high school expands.

Mr. Tishuk shared that the school had an alumni reunion for our students who matriculated out of 8th grade in previous years, some of whom are now attending college.

VI. Closing Items

A. Executive Session

The Board discussed matters of legal and human resources.

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicholas Tishuk

Documents used during the meeting

- June 11 AFL MTG.pdf
- Board Meeting Calendar 2025-26.pdf
- Safety_Plan_2025-26_Emergency-Response-Plan-District-Wide-Safety-Plan_.pdf