Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools

Minutes

Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools Board Meeting

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Date and Time
Wednesday August 19, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Location
82 Lewis Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11206

Trustees Present
Cecelia Russo, Cynthia Aker, Doris Givens, Kevin Nesbitt, Shawn Carson, Simone Pratt, Victor Rivera

Trustees Absent
John Matos

Ex Officio Members Present
Nicholas Tishuk

Non Voting Members Present
Nicholas Tishuk

Guests Present
Lamar Renee Garcia, Lisa-Renée Brown, Michael Taylor, Muhammed Bilal, Patience Brown, Patricia Bramwell

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I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Kevin Nesbitt called a meeting of the board of trustees of Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools to order on Wednesday Aug 19, 2026 at 6:25 PM.

C. Appoint Trustee for Additional Term

Kevin Nesbitt made a motion to to appoint Trustee Simone to a full five year term as a Trustee.
Shawn Carson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Approve July Meeting Minutes

Cynthia Aker made a motion to approve the minutes from Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools Board Meeting on 07-10-26.
Cecelia Russo seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Approve Update to District Safety Plan

Victor Rivera made a motion to approve the Safety Plan for 2026-27.
Doris Givens seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Resignation of Trustee

The Board thanks Joe for his service to the Board for last 17 years and reluctantly accepts his resignation.

II. Academic and Family Life Committee

A. Committee Update

Chair Cecelia Russo updated the Board on the work of the Academic and Family Life Committee; she met with Chief Academic Officer, K-8 Principal and HS Principal to discuss summer progress in Grades K-11. She discussed the work of the High School team, including the new Assistant Principals at the high school.

CAO Patience Brown discussed the launch of the new school year. Principal Garcia discussed the initial staff training for new staff, which started in earnest last week and the returning staff, who returned this week. We are getting ready for open houses next week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday for our older elementary and middle school students, for our Kindergarten students.

Trustee Victor asked for an update of high school staff. Principal Bilal described the onboarding of new staff members at the high school, including the scope and sequence of core courses, project based learning and the framework for our our College and Careers program. Regents exams were administered yesterday and today. We have open houses scheduled for next week. Principal Bilal described the work of the returning staff, addressing any curiosity or questions about his program, including new structures such as the academics.

CAO Brown encouraged trustees to join our open house events and other school events that are open to the public or schedule visits to the school at their convenience.

III. Finance Committee

A. Finance Committee Update

Chief Operating Officer Michael Taylor updated the Board on the school's Finances. There are no extraordinary expenses or revenues during this time period. The school's per pupil numbers will be clear by the upcoming September meeting, following the start of the academic school year on August 31st.

IV. Governance Committee

A. Committee Update

Chair Doris Givens updated the Board on the work on the Development Committee. The Board Assessment has been completed and the Committee will work on next steps with the rest of the Board. Board recruitment for new trustees is also a priority. The Committee also discussed next KPIs and trends to be further developed through the school year.

V. Development Committee

A. Committee Update

Chair Simone Pratt updated the Board on the work of the development committee. She discussed the planning of a Trustee Engagement Open House to support the recruitment of new Trustees and the expansion of the Board. Trustees are encouraged to

VI. Public Comments

A. Public comments

There were no public comments.

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 7:21 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicholas Tishuk