DRAFT

Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools

Minutes

Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday November 18, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Location
82 Lewis Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11206

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

Trustees Absent
Cecelia Russo, John Matos

Ex Officio Members Present
Nicholas Tishuk

Guests Present
Lamar Renee Garcia, Lisa-Renée Brown, Michael Taylor, Patience Brown

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 Nov 18, 2026 at 6:08 PM.

C. Approve October Meeting Minutes

Doris Givens made a motion to approve the minutes from Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools Board Meeting on 10-21-26.
Victor Rivera seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Finance Committee

A. Finance Committee Update

PKF O'Connor Davies auditor Gus Saliba presented to the Board to present an additional analysis of the school's financial position. The final audit report for FY26 was completed and submitted as a part of the Schools' annual reports. Currently in progress is the 990 and the Single Audit, which is delayed due to the guidance not yet being released by the federal government. Once completed, it will be added to the FY26 financial statements.

There are no significant financial issues or material weaknesses; there were no significant disagreements between the school and the audit team. There was a clean, unmodified opinion. Significant cash difference of $1.6MM from the previous fiscal year; the school was required to increase its escrow holdings as a part of its dissolution fund. $6.9MM in revenue was due to higher enrollment, special education allocations and federal allocations. The school had additional foundation grants and there were no surprises in expenses, with the majority of increases coming in personnel for additional staffing.

Chief Operating Officer Michael Taylor updated the Board on the school's financial standing; there were no extraordinary expenses or revenues during this time period. CAO Patience Brown updated the Board on the school's recruitment strategies and reports that enrollment is trending up and we are adding new students weekly.

III. Academic and Family Life Committee

A. Committee Update

Principal Lamar-Renee Garcia updated the Board on the work of our elementary and middle school students. We had a successful Parent Teacher Conference, with 568 participating families, highlighting the strength of our family life and parent engagement. Trustees are invited to join the K-8 Thanksgiving feast on Friday prior to the upcoming school break. We have a winter holiday show on December 16th as well.

CAO Patience Brown updated the Board on the work of the high school. She has focused on supporting our teachers and staff culture. Our two Assistant Principals have been empowered to support the day-to-day work of academic leadership. Focus now is classroom mini-observations, feedback cycles and positive feedback for staff. We are currently analyzing the NYSED framework for NY Inspires, the new graduation framework for New York State. CAO Brown has updated the high school's data framework and interim assessments model. She also updated the Board on our newly elected Student Council and their feedback on how to continuously improve the student experience at the high school. This year's first intersession Enrichment Week will begin November 30th. Trustee Shawn Carson acknowledged and complemented Ms. Brown on her energy and engagement for this important work. Trustees are encouraged to share any potential internships that Trustees can access and connect with for our scholars.

Chair Kevin Nesbitt updated the Board on a high school student visit to the St. Thomas Aquinas College, of which he is the Vice President. Chair Nesbitt welcomed our students and they were able to experience a Hudson Valley campus experience, in addition to the other college visits students regularly receive in our College Bound program. They also got a chance to meet several Veterans on campus and the ROTC program at the school; the College is exploring offering a potential scholarship framework for BSNBCS graduates.

IV. Governance Committee

A. Committee Update

Governance Chair Doris Givens shared a review of the Board's by-laws and its committee structures. Chair Kevin Nesbitt and Trustee Shawn Carson shared that this process would continue to improve the Board's governance framework.

V. Development Committee

A. Committee Update

Chair Simone Pratt updated the Board on the work of the Development committee; the discussion focused on opportunities for potential Trustee candidates.

VI. Public Comments

A. Public comments

Chair and co-founder Kevin Nesbitt opened the meeting recognizing the contributions of founding Trustee and Trustee Emeritus Pat Bramwell to the school, following her passing. Co-founder Victor Rivera reflected on Pat's impact on the community and the school itself. CPO Lisa-Renee Brown shared her memories of Pat. Trustee Doris Givens shared her reflections on Pat's position impact. Her legacy will continue to be acknowledged with

each graduating class via our Board Awards for our graduates. The Board held a moment of silence in her memory.

VII. Closing Items

A. Executive Session

The Board moved to Executive Session to Discuss a legal matter.

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicholas Tishuk