APPROVED

Bedford Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter Schools

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday October 20, 2016 at 6:00 PM

Location
82 Lewis Avenue

Trustees Present
Angel Charriez, Cecelia Russo, Dalia Oberlander, Joseph Sciame, Kevin Nesbitt, Patricia Bramwell, Victor Rivera

Trustees Absent
Leticia Theodore-Greene, Marlena Mondesir

Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened
Dalia Oberlander

Ex Officio 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 Thursday Oct 20, 2016 at 6:04 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

Mr. Sciame thanked Ms. Mondesir for the substance in the notes.

Ms. Russo requested that Ms. Morales e-mail information regarding the performance of students.

Ms. Russo requested that pg. 3, third paragraph be amended to show that Ms. Theodore-Green, Ms. D'Anjou-Pomerlau and Ms. Pagan met with Councilman Cornegy.

Ms. Oberlander arrived.

Ms. Russo requested that the NYCBT donation renewal be moved to a separate paragraph,
Dalia Oberlander arrived.
Patricia Bramwell made a motion to approve minutes from the Board Meeting on 09-27-16 Board Meeting on 09-27-16.
Angel Charriez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. School Status Update

A. Presentation by the School Management Team

Mr. Tishuk reported on the expansion of partnership efforts for the School: including interactive technology programs with Games & Chess LLC (running three programs at the School right now).

Mr. Tishuk reported that 3 new staffers have been added: a new ELA associate, a 4th grade LC left unexpectedly and his classes are being co-taught by staff while three search firms are looking nationally for replacement candidates.

Mr. Tishuk reported that PTCs would be on 11/3 and an MS Assembly Day would be on 11/7.

Mr. Tishuk sad that the Fall Fair would be happen on 10/31, continuing the School tradition into a 7th year.

III. Committees Reports

A. Executive Committee Report

Mr.. Sciame reports that the Exec Committee report would be dealt with in Executive Session.

B. Family Life Committee Report

Ms. Brown, in Mr. Nesbitt's absence, reported on the meetings with parents for the LS. She stated that parents were told about the new report cards and other academic matters. Ms. Pagan noted that the MS Assembly would be on 11/7.

Mr. Nesbitt arrived.

Mr. Sciame asked about the college visit states.

Ms. Russo noted that the visit to SJU was set up for 11/30.

C. Development Committee Report

In Ms. Theodore-Green's absence, Mr. Tishuk noted that there was a followup with Councilman Cornegy nd his School visit. Mr. Tishuk noted that the visit went well and there was an invitation to go into the participatory budgeting process this year. Ms. Russo asked about the potential parent volunteer that Councilman Cornegy suggested. Mr. Tishuk noted that thee had been movement and a parent volunteer (Rana Roberts) introduced herself.

D. Education Committee Report

Ms. Russo reported tat she had been advised that a staffing chart had been posted to Board on Track. She further noted that they were ready to help with Family Life committee. Ms D'Anjou-Pomerleau noted that many of the requested documents were on Board on Track.

Mr. Tishik introduced Ms. Brown and Ms. Pagan to talk about the initial assessments. Ms. Brown noted that we were at 10% proficiency for math, which she noted was problematic. She has added a second math block and other things to address this. She noted that 22% proficiency was the level for ELA in 1-4. There are a number of adjustments to the schedule to address this. Mr. Tishuk noted that these assessments reflect the proficiency as of today.

Ms. Russo asked about the tests and was advised that they would be in April 2017

Ms. Pagan also addressed the MS and noted that 30-52% were in the High 2 - 4range in ELA. She noted that math was still a problem and noted particular problems with steps

and for problems with no true concrete solution. She noted that there was need to deal with how to address this. Mr. Nesbitt asked whether the data showed something new, and Ms. Pagab advised that the 5th graders were hit most.

Ms. Brown noted that the LS math program needs to address the fundamentals and noted that she was addressing the issue via better Common Care alignment and more work.

Mr. Sciame asked about alumni and whether we keep track of them. Mr. Tishuk said the were in contact with them and noted that there might be a reunion of sorts with respect to our first group of alumni.

Mr. Tishuk advised the Board that he was developing a relationship with educational partners at the HS level so as to determine what we could do to better prepare our students. Mr. Nesbitt noted that this was consistent with Councilman Corney's request to see if these types of relationships could be developed.

Ms. Pagan noted that HS Applications had been distributed to students and HS principals would be visiting to recruit students.

Ms. Obrlander discussed a possible mentorship program for arms to come in and talk with kids.

E. Finance Committee Report

Mr. Tishuk noted that he had prepared a new report for the DOE and that the audited financials would be ready for review at the November meeting.

IV. New Business

A. Public Comments

Mr. Sciame noted that he was invited by the Comptroller to MC an event. He noted that he had invited the Comptroller to come to the School.He noted that Matilda Cuomo had also expressed interest in coming to the School.

Dorothy Hudgins, a parent of two scholars, addressed the board and noted a lot of changes and stated that she was concerned that there was a music program and there was a Latin course. She encouraged the Board to think beyond numbers and to develop the whole student. She noted that bad behavior seemed to be more prevalent this year.

Mr. Sciame noted that Latin was supposed to be a core curriculum, but that there was difficulty hiring Latin.

Mr. Tishk noted that the LS has a music teacher this year.

Mr. Nesbitt thanked the parents for attending and noting that it was good for the School to be reminded of the other concerns.

Ms. Hendricks, parent of two scholars, noted that her second grader had lunch stolen from her cubby and noted an altercation on the stairs. She stated she was concerned about safety. Mr. Tishuk noted the safety cameras and said that the School was responsive to concerns,

Mr. Nesbitt again thanked the parent.

Ms. Hendricks noted that she had a concern about the fact that there

Ms. Joseph, parent of 3 scholars, noted three problems with the School. She said that the class that she observed was disorganized and had a disruptive child. She stated that grades were low because the teacher turnover was great due to teachers leaving because of problems in the classroom. Mr. Tishuk noted that there was a problem in class that they were working on it.

Ms. Grant, a parent, with a child in 4B (no homework), a problem with teacher. Her child was pushed into a radiator and there was an issue with no parent notification. She continued to note that therefore issues generally with safety and issues with parent notifications being last minute and other problems.

Ms. Benjamin noted that her daughter was moved from a class because of a safety issue. She further note that lunch was being rushed and needed to have more time to enjoy them.

Ms. Julien noted that there was a 5th grade that was performing exceptionally and wondered if there was a way to apply this to other classes. Ms. Pagan noted that there was a special class in which there was no transition and all teaching was done in the same room.

Ms. Benjamin asked if scheduling issues could be addressed to make things easier for parents to participate. She was advised that noise was sent two weeks ago and a reminder was sent out yesterday. She further asked about the After-School program. She noted that Homework Help was only offered on two days and noted that after School could be used to help with Homework.

B. Executive session

Cecelia Russo made a motion to Go Into Executive Session.
Patricia Bramwell seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Cecelia Russo made a motion to deny a requested severance payment for a former employee who resigned over the Summer.
Angel Charriez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
Kevin Nesbitt made a motion to amend the motion to deny the severance package to include a requirement that the denial of the severance be communicated by the Senior Management team.
Patricia Bramwell seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Return to public meeting

Angel Charriez made a motion to Return to Public session.
Victor Rivera seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Report from the executive session

The Board discussed legal and personnel matters.

The Board interviewed prospective Board Members.

The Board discussed an issue regarding a requested severance for a former employee. The Board voted unanimously to reject the request and directed the SMt to communicate the denial to the former employee.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Angel Charriez made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Patricia Bramwell 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 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Victor Rivera