



Pharos Academy Charter School

Minutes

BLCS January 2018 Board Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday January 18, 2018 at 6:30 PM

Location

Bronx Lighthouse Charter School

Trustees Present

B. Thompson, D. Kaplan, E. DeGonzalez, E. Kinsey, J. Lopez-Molina, N. Jones, R. Granado, S. Sutherland, V. Caba

Trustees Absent

None

Guests Present

A. Duggins, J. Finney, M. Dorsey, Matthew Paulose Jr., Esq, T. Brown

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

J. Lopez-Molina called a meeting of the board of trustees of Pharos Academy Charter School to order on Thursday Jan 18, 2018 at 6:41 PM.

II. Public Comments

A. Public Comments

CPA Senior Scholar notified Board of scholar participation in an upcoming event- Scholars to wear black in participation of the event.

Parents Association members in attendance, all is well.

III. Board Governance

A. Board Governance

All in attendance provided a brief introduction of themselves.

Shout out to Courtney Russell and Maria Dorsey for assisting the Board.

Update on Board Goals

Goal #1 Increasing the board size , currently at 9 members

Goal #2 Increase committee activities, currently at 4 committees (Finance, Executive, School Culture, Academic)

Goal #3 Decreasing the length/time of the Board Meetings

Goal #4 Spend time thinking strategically

Noted Suggestions for Board Goals:

Board size suggestion to 11 .

Fully staffed committees , with committee goals .

BLCS Charter Renewal documents presented to Board for review and discussion on goals for the Board & School.

Last Charter Renewal - 3 Year Renewal

M&T would consider the school if there was a 5 year renewal.

Board discussion around obtaining 5 year renewal in the future.

Board Renewal 3 Questions: Is the school well run? Is the school academically successful ? Is the school financial viable.

Measurable goal for the Board - Develop committee goals that are centered around the charter renewal goals.

Board Member Terms discussed

Vision, Mission, Strategy paradigm mentioned as a consideration for the Board to consider as a way to establish board goals for members and committees.

Questions presented and discussed around the relationship between the Board, LHA and School Leadership.

Committee suggestions- Fundraising

Chair Assigned For Active Committees:

Chair for Academic: Nikali Jones

Chair for Executive: Javier Lopez-Molina
Chair for Finance: Robb Granado
Chair for School Culture: Evelyn DeGonzalez
Chair for Fundraising: TBD

Fundraising Committee suggestion to be placed on hold until the other committees are established and running strategically.

Fundraising Committee and Chair selection on hold

Committee Members:

Executive Members: Robb, Nikali, Javier
Finance Members: Robb, David , Eric
Academic Members: David, Nikali, Stacy, Briar, Evelyn
School Culture: Evelyn, Vilma, Stacy

Committee Report/Updates:

Academic Committee: Meeting to discuss strategies related to school academic success

School Culture Committee: Discuss roles of Deans and the recent new hire, new hire for part time social worker, discuss meeting activities scheduled for both schools.

Investment Strategy to be discussed in greater detail at the next board meeting.

Commute time and retention/turnover as a topic of discussion for the Board when discussing retention and staff turnover.

Parking needs discussed - Board was informed of the success of school acquiring parking for staff/teachers. Board also informed of commuter benefit offered to all staff members.

Teacher compensation by gender and experience- Data was reviewed and experience and education were significant. Gender was not significant. Final outcome of data analysis report good.

Javier shared recent discussion with Metropolitan's Lighthouse Charter School Board Secretary, Jessica.

IV. Executive Director Comments/Report

A. LHA Executive Director Report

NYU Partnership discussed - 4 Lower Academy Teachers & 2 College Prep Academy Teachers (6 Participants)

Interns coming in next school year - Paid \$25,000 + Benefits

After School Programs - High School Scholars tutoring

V. Principal's Report

A. Principal's Report

Alix discussed report and highlights of recent events and new hires.

Travis : Lower Academy , no major events. - Cancer Fundraiser event mentioned.

Two Lower Academy vacancies have been filled.

VI. Facility

A. Facility Updates

Facility events discussed related to HVAC CPA system on January 3,4 and 8, 2018 .

Future maintenance and periodical inspections recommended.

VII. Finance

A. Building Financing

Robb and John provide details around the building financials.

Potential of locking in finances for 30 years.

B. Finance Report

Mary Beth and Robb provided clarity on financial questions and discussed other financial items included in the December financials.

Principals provided details related to financials amendments and proposed allocations.

Budget Amendments Approved by the Board.

R. Granado made a motion to Approve December Financials and Budget Amendments.

J. Lopez-Molina seconded the motion.

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

VIII. School Operations

A. Approve Minutes

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to Approve minutes from the BLCS December 2017 Board Meeting on 12-14-17 BLCS December 2017 Board Meeting on 12-14-17.

E. DeGonzalez seconded the motion.

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

IX. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Board went into executive session at 10:45 PM , inviting Principal Brown and Principal Duggins to remain present.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 11:19 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Dorsey

X. Board Member Interviews

A. New Trustee Interview(s)

Brief Introduction - Matthew Paulose Jr., Esq.

Board Interview conducted

Board discussed candidate

Voting new Member postponed