



Bronx Charter School for the Arts

Minutes

Monthly Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday October 13, 2020 at 6:30 PM

Trustees Present

Ahmad Sheikh (remote), Arlene Bascom (remote), Barbara H. Scott (remote), Charles Whites (remote), Denise Brecher (remote), Eric Osorio (remote), Graham Powis (remote), Katherine Trager (remote), Lori Biancamano (remote), Susan Geisenheimer (remote)

Trustees Absent

Aisha Bell, Dan Vislocky

Guests Present

Jonea Thomas (remote), Kan Xiie, CPA of N. Cheng, LLP, Karlene Cowan (remote), Melanie Hok (remote), Miaoling Lin, CPA of N. Cheng, LLP, Miriam Raccah (remote), Ryan McCabe (remote), Susan Fulwiler (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Barbara H. Scott called a meeting of the board of trustees of Bronx Charter School for the Arts to order on Tuesday Oct 13, 2020 at 6:35 PM.

C.

Approve Minutes from Previous Board Meeting

Susan Geisenheimer made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly Board Meeting on 09-08-20.

Arlene Bascom seconded the motion.

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

II. Nominating Committee Update

A. Board Candidates

Miriam Raccah discussed potential new Board members.

Colin H. Mincy will send resume and do virtual school tour.

Sara Villagio will have conversations with Graham Powis, Susan Geisenheimer, & Barbara Scott

III. Executive

A. Principals' Report

1. **Jonea Thomas** presented the Bronx Arts Elementary Priorities for the 2020-2021 school year to the Board. Highlights include:

1. New DCI Maria Hewins focus on ELA
2. DCI Patricia Rooney focus on Math and Science
3. DCI Jennifer Ciavarella focus on Students in Special Populations
4. Dean of Students Jahneel Small focus on Social and Emotional Learning
5. Arts Director Jerry Phelps focus on aligning the Arts program across the two sites.
6. 19/20 teacher retention rate 85%
7. Professional development overview
8. Equity work overview
9. Academic goals for State Exams

2. **Ryan McCabe** presented the Bronx Arts Middle Priorities for the 2020-2021 school year to the Board. Highlights include:

1. Improve teacher retention - 100% grade 6 staff retained
2. 96% student attendance prior to March close. 92% since going remote.
3. 50% for State Exams (did not give state test in 2020 not sure testing will happen in 2021)
4. Goal for student growth is 1.5 years - measured by MAP test
5. Discussed new staff (Geovanti Stewart and Alice McIntosh)
6. Equity work at BAM
7. Arts integration
8. Arts Honor Society
9. Defining excellence across BAM

Jonea Thomas and Ryan McCabe provided update on the number of students onsite.

B. Dashboard

C. 950 Longfellow Building Update

HVAC Unit

IV. Development Report

A. Development Report

Ahmad reported out on Development update. The goal is to engage the Board more with Development.

1. Getting your networks more engaged with Bronx Arts
2. Asked Board to review 6 commitments from Development Plan

Susan F - Ahmad is correct - the goal is to keep people close during the pandemic, focus on building relationships.

October 26th Event - Conversation about Art & Social Justice

V. Finance

A. September Financials

Arlene Bascom presented the September financials.

B. 2019-2020 Audit Presentation

Auditors Mailing Lin and Kan Kie of N. Chang presented the 2019-2020 audit to the Board. The school is doing well. Cash is up and liability is down. Asset increased by 1.5M but liability stayed the same. 1.8M in income.

Audits for next year will need to begin early because of new compliance mandates.

Arlene Bascom made a motion to have the Board allow the finance committee to approve the 2019-2020 audit.

Barbara H. Scott seconded the motion.

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

VI. Other Business

A. Executive Session

The board then had an Executive Session.

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 8:02 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Katherine Trager