

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
for the
BEDFORD-STUYVESANT NEW BEGINNINGS
CHARTER SCHOOL**

Meeting of October 18, 2012

Members Present: Joseph Sciame; Patricia Bramwell; Victor Rivera Jr.; Cecelia Russo; Marlena Mondesir.

Members Absent: Angel Charriez (Excused); Kevin Nesbitt (Excused); Mike Nieves; (Excused) Leticia Theodore-Green (Excused).

Also Present: Joshua Morales (ED); Karen Jones (AL); K. Stokley (Dir. Ops.), V. D’Anjou-Pomerlou (Special Asst.), S. Del Sherpa (Coord., Instr. & Curric.); V. Moniz (Dir., S.S.); Felipe Ventegeat (Plant Consultant).

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A quorum being present, the Meeting commenced at 6:14 pm.

Upon a motion duly made by Ms. Bramwell and seconded by Ms. Russo, the minutes of the September 20, 2012 meeting were adopted, with all necessary changes, by a vote of 4 - 0 - 1, with Mr. Rivera abstaining.

Mr. Morales advised that Democracy Prep was having a fundraiser on November 14, 2012 and invited the Board Members to attend for purposes of seeing how a similar fundraiser could be done for the School.

Mr. Morales reviewed the with the Board the dashboard advising of school operations and reported specifically on absences, disciplinary issues and the impact on new SPED guidelines on the School’s bottom line.

Ms. D’Anjou-Pomerlou advised that the School was considering creating a newsletter that would highlight the best efforts of students at the School.

Mr. Stokley advised that there were 336 enrolled students. Mr. Morales stated that he would soon shift the focus from trying to gain more enrollees for this year to preparing for next year's enrollment.

Mr. Morales advised of an issue with the boiler room vault revealed by recent construction to the adjacent building that needed to be addressed.

Ms. Jones reported on the School's academic status and reviewed with the Board the teacher evaluation data and diagnostics that had been put into use. She advised that these diagnostics were being used aggressively to improve teacher performance. Ms. Russo inquired about the number of new teachers and was advised that there were 15 new teachers out of 48.

Mr. Ventegeat asked if there was a bridge program for the children over the summer. Ms. Jones advised that all children received bridge books over the Summer, but only 75 of the 220+ students that received them did the work.

Mr. Morales reviewed the School budget and advised that he was undertaking to apply for a \$200,000 grant to bridge the gap created with the loss of money created by the new SPED guidelines for funding.

Ms. Russo asked if class parents had ever been selected and was advised by Ms. Mondesir that the Parent Organization had not done so. The Board then discussed possible things for the PO to do.

Mr. Morales proposed a new structure for maintaining and conducting committee meetings between Board meetings. Mr. Rivera asked if a vote was needed, but Mr. Sciame and Ms. Russo stated that none was needed. Mr. Morales was instructed by the Board to go forward with the structure.

Mr. Rivera and Mr. Morales (*ex officio*) were added to the Development Committee.

The Board discussed the Handbook and the need to make changes to it. The Board agreed that, to the extent changes could be agreed to, such changes could be incorporated into the on-line version of the Handbook and a hard copy distributed to parents.

Upon a motion by Ms. Bramwell, seconded by Mr. Rivera, the Board unanimously voted to recess the meeting at 8:15 p.m.