

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR THE
BEDFORD STUYVESANT NEW BEGINNINGS CHARTER SCHOOL**

**AUGUST 20, 2010
5:00-7:00PM**

**111 BROADWAY, SUITE 604
NEW YORK, NY 10006
212.437.8300**

The Meeting was called to order at 5:05pm by the Chairman, Joseph Sciame, who indicated that Secretary Victor Rivera was unable to attend the meeting owing to needed physical therapy and Mike Nieves was away on vacation. Leticia Theodore-Greene would join via conference call. However a quorum would be present to conduct business as all other members of Board were in attendance; Ms. Theodore-Greene would not be able to vote via conference call, but was on the call to assist with meeting the quorum.

ATTENDANCE: Joseph Sciame, Chair; and Board Members: Patricia Bramwell, Vice-Chair; Tom Atwood, Angel Charriez, Kevin Nesbitt and Cecelia Russo. As well, Academic Leader Karen Jones and Chief Operating Office Josh Morales were also in attendance.

PUBLIC GUEST: Denise Carter-Mataboge

REVIEW OF MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2010 – Joseph Sciame read a summary of the proceedings from his notes of the meeting of July 16, 2010, as the Secretary was unable to provide it at this time. They will be reviewed and adopted at the forthcoming September 17, 2010 meeting of the Board.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT & UPDATE – The Chairman reported on the activities of the past month, which he stated as being very fulfilling, busy and challenging. He indicated that the most recent meeting of the parents on August 17th and the discussions led by the Academic Leader were very positive and well received by all in attendance. He stated that the teachers and staff all were in line with the thoughts of the Board in “selecting the best of the best.”

He further went on to report re the matter of a License Agreement with the Parish/Diocese that was required in order for the COO to coordinate the “cosmetic” changes at the School site. The License would be in place thru August 31, 2010 at which time the Lease Agreement must be signed, assuming that the lawyers for the Board and BSNBCS were satisfied with the terms of the Agreement. Mr. Sciame spoke to the point of the needed “back and forth” when reviewing such important agreements, and rendered plaudits to the lawyers for BSNBCS.

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The Chairman also went on to say that in a tour of the school site following the 8/17 meeting with Ms. Bramwell and Mr. Nesbitt, it was quite amazing as to how good the school classrooms, etc., were looking. It was an improvement that could not easily be measured and the fact that extensive photographs were taken before anything was corrected and cosmetically changed, the record will show that the current condition is quite improved. Ms. Bramwell and Mr. Nesbitt concurred.

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER'S REPORT – Josh Morales commenced a comprehensive report that included the following topics:

- Budget was streamlined
- Cash flow could be an issue at times and warrants constant monitoring of the budget
- Applied for Title I Grant
- Partners Grant application filed
- Credit Line needs to be established (for which Angel Charriez is assisting)
- State Budget is okay at present and no funding freeze at this time
- Renovations of some \$170,000 and another \$40,000 in order to achieve needed cosmetic changes to make a difference at the school site.
- Fire System to be in place
- Boiler has been repaired
- Future: windows, heating improvements, etc.
- Security Camera is operable and all locks to be changed
- New Server for the computer system
- Alarm system is activated
- One (1) Security guard will be on board at the school site, which is acceptable based on enrollment
- 401K has been initiated for all staff
- Director of Operations has been hired, Kisani
- Plumbing – Bathroom on the First Floor will be in good working order, and others require improvements
- Work being done on the gym floor and completed by 8/24/10
- All classroom floors will have been completed, scraped, polished, etc. by 8/27/10
- Robust Data System to document and memorialize all information
- Board Retreat – date to be announced
- Recommendation to visit other board of trustee meetings at other schools

ACADEMIC LEADER'S REPORT – Ms. Jones began her report with great praise for the work of the committee assigned to the review and selection of the teachers and staff. She stated in her own enthusiastic and energetic way that she just "Loved the Faculty!"

She also commented as to the limited concerns of the parents on 8/17 at the joint meeting, which were basically centered about the matter of uniforms and where to buy the khaki pants and hunter green shirts, etc. Information was provided. While the Public Member present at the meeting indicated that a School Supply List might have assisted the parents, it was admitted that in the future this would occur.

Again, Ms. Jones continued with summaries of the following:

- Academic Programs are excellent
- Parents will be in the know of information flow
- Special Education Teacher is excellent and caring
- Field Trips will take place, i.e., Liberty Science Center and experience there was recounted
- Parent chaperones for field trips
- Parent involvement in monitoring a child's academic progress via computer
- After School Program was discussed as to a combination of Homework, Fit for Life, etc. (All concurred on this topic that it must be self sustaining in terms of costs and a proposal as to the actual cost will be submitted pending a review and discussion by the Academic Leader with the COO.)
- Future fundraising by the parents
- Enrollment: All grades appear to be filled with just minor openings in the K and 1 grades
- Need Interns and/or Student Teachers
- Site of 9/16 meeting with parents to be at the parish auditorium owing to space needs.
- Girl and Boy Scout Groups to be formed

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

EDUCATION – Cecelia Russo reported on the activities of the Education Committee and thanked all for the discussions and provided a report as to their deliberations. During the course of her report it was suggested that there be a special meeting to meet the teachers, to which Ms. Jones concurred. Mrs. Russo also spoke to the point of the next monthly conference call, a date which would have to be changed owing to the Labor Day holiday.

Finance/Operations – Angel Charriez injected information relative to the matter of signatory cards and the number of signatures required. All agreed that there must be latitude with regard to the amounts of monies that are expended, and the number of signatures required. For a forthcoming meeting, a proposal will be submitted by the COO regarding this issue. Mr. Charriez pointed out that in the future, the checkbook, etc., would be at the school site and perhaps not an issue for two members of the Board to sign off on such bills. Nonetheless, the members present felt that a more expeditious, but carefully monitored, method would have to be developed.

In addition, Mr. Charriez spoke to the point of Capital One providing two pianos, and computers that are yet in process. He continues to work on the matter of a Line of Credit as well as a debit card.

Outreach – Kevin Nesbitt reported on the discussions his committee has had and among which was the matter of the logo, to which Leticia Theodore-Greene spoke about a forthcoming draft with recommended modifications. Despite the fact that the logo might not be ready for the commencing of classes, it was felt that a logo was important, especially in stressing the motto of the school: AD SUMMUM.

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Development – Joseph Sciamè spoke to the matter of this committee and Leticia volunteered to raise some dollars, but she stated wisely that the Board needed to come up with a “wish list” of that which the school and children might need. Priorities needed to be set before attempting to raise funds, and all concurred with that thinking.

OLD BUSINESS – none

NEWBUSINESS –

PARENTS’ ORGANIZATION - The matter of a founding of a Parents’ Organization was discussed, and it was felt that this is something that could be planted as an idea, but not run by school officials. It was felt that at the 9/16 meeting of the parents at the parish center, the Academic Leader could speak to the importance of a PO, and then with the distribution of the Handbook, allowing a month or so, the parents could come together on their own and select/elect their leader. Once the group is formed, that group would then designate the representative to the Board of Trustees in terms of a parent member.

The question of how to engage parents in activities that inure to the benefit of the school was discussed but felt that it might be premature to address those issues at present.

OPENING DAY/WEEK EVENT - Joseph Sciamè asked about an “Opening Day or Week event.” Mr. Morales felt that such an event might and could take place one week after school, as classes commence on 9/13. To that end, Mr. Sciamè asked Leticia for the names of leaders of the community such as: congressional rep, senator, assembly reps, the CB members, etc. so that they too might be invited. Mr. Morales indicated he had commenced to develop such a list, and asked Ms. Theodore-Greene to forward the names and positions to him to further the development of a comprehensive community list. A press release needs to be prepared for the formal announcement of the opening of BSNBCS.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS - Under New Business, Chairman Sciamè asked the members as to the status of the Academic Leader and Chief Operation Officer as Board members. Following a thorough discussion of the issue, a motion was made by Kevin Nesbitt and seconded by Patricia Bramwell that both positions should be added to the Board of Trustees, but without a vote. It was felt by all present and on conference, that the inout at Board meetings by eh AL and COO would be of invaluable assistance in maintaining the goals that were and would be set forth by the Board. The motion was carried unanimously.

TERMS OF OFFICE FOR BOARD MEMBERS – In keeping with the By-Laws of the BSNBCS, in the future consideration would have to be addressed to the issue of staggered terms, i.e., for the Inaugural Board to ensure continuity. Therefore, this matter will be further addressed at a subsequent meeting.

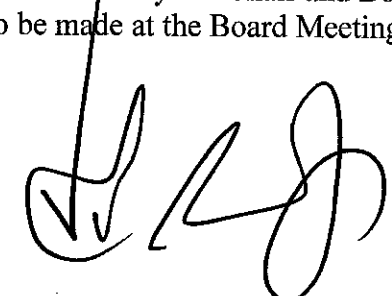
PUBLIC COMMENT – Ms. Carter-Mataboge stated that the night of August 17th was very well coordinated and she herself is excited about the process of the new school, all for the benefit of her child.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING – The meeting concluded at 7pm sharp with a motion by Patricia Bramwell and seconded by Cecelia Russo, and carried unanimously. The announced date of FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2010 at 5pm is set for the next Board of Trustees meeting at the school site. **Mr. Sciame emphasized that unless otherwise indicated ALL meetings of the Board are at 5pm.** He indicated that he would keep the meeting time down to two hours as best as possible, as there is much ground to be covered from one meeting to the next.

Respectfully submitted,

Cecelia Russo
Member of the Board of Trustees

NOTE: This set of minutes was a combination of the notes taken by the Chair and Board Member, as indicated above. Any and all corrections to be made at the Board Meeting of Friday, September 17, 2010.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Cecelia Russo', written in a cursive style. The signature is located to the right of the 'NOTE' section.