

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

Meeting of January 19, 2011

Members Present: Joseph Sciame; Patricia Bramwell; Cecelia Russo; Mike Nieves; Kevin Nesbitt; Leticia Theodore-Green

Members Excused: Angel Charriez and Victor Rivera, and Josh Morales (COO)

Also Present: Karen Jones (AL); Kashani Stokley (DOO)

Public: Marlena Mondesir (Co-President., PO)

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A quorum being present, the Meeting commenced at 6:20 pm. The set of minutes from the December 15, 2011 had not been received to date, and would be reviewed pending arrival.

Mr. Sciame, once again, reminded the Board of the need for the working committees of the Board to meet in between meetings and conduct business. He then spoke about future meetings and it was determined that the next series of meetings would be on Monday, February 27, 2012; Tuesday, March 20, 2012 and Tuesday, April 17, 2012, all currently scheduled for 6pm. All concurred with the dates and there were no conflicts, pending the two missing Board members and their respective schedules.

OPERATIONS: Kashani Stokley provided a report with handouts. In sum, the numbers are strong both at the present registration, and for the future there is a waiting list being developed; the heating system is quite operational and with the warmer weather all appears good; the 501©3 Foundation paperwork is now pending; and the Parents' Organization is meeting each month.

ACADEMICS: Karen Jones reported that all positions had been filled; it was determined that Latin would commence in the 5th grade; that there were four (4) children with whom she and the staff are working who have related autistic issues; and that the classes would be coming up with a Spring Service Project in keeping with the goals as set by the Board at its founding of the Charter School at Bed-Stuy. The Chair urged that such a project definitely take place in the Spring 2012.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Chair Sciame reported that there had been some discussion re the matter of whether to simply continue with a K-5 model, or go to a

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K-4 and then K5-8. A very lengthy discussion took place with a good, and healthy, exchange of ideas and thoughts. Leticia Theodore-Greene moved that we should proceed with a K6-8 then made such a motion. Patricia Bramwell seconded this motion, and the motion was carried with one against. The Chair voiced his concerns, and did not vote in either respect, pending the ongoing discussions with the COO.

A further discussion ensued with regard to the increase in the Kindergarten class by one (1) additional class. A motion was made, following further discussion on this issue of increasing enrollment and with positive information provided by the Academic Leader, in that Mike Nieves moved that there be an increase in classes K, 1 and 2. This was seconded by Kevin Nesbitt and adopted by all.

A discussion took place regarding new Board membership to which it was indicated that some thought might be rendered to obtain a banker, a realtor and/or another professional for the Board. It was suggested that perhaps the Charter School Center in NYC might be able to lend some advice and/or referrals to help increase the current number on the Board.

In terms of addressing the matter of FUNDRAISING, the Chair voiced a concern in that some fundraising would have to be done, and to this end more discussions and recommendation might be forthcoming at a subsequent meeting.

EDUCATION: Cecelia Russo reported that with regard to the 2011-12 Evaluation processes they would be taking place on schedule and a rubric would be developed by March 2012. All would be completed by June 2012 so that all concerned would be advised of their renewal and/or termination of services.

FINANCIAL/PHYSICAL OPERATIONS: Mike Nieves reported for Angel Charriez that all appeared to be fine in terms of finances, and that with regard to the exterior work being done on the building he had concerns if and when scaffolding was not used. He highly, and strongly, recommended that scaffolding be used.

ENGAGEMENT: Kevin Nesbitt reported that the protocols that have been and will be established with dealing with student related issues must be followed. The Engagement Committee, and by Mr. Nesbitt, will inform the parents in a related situation that the matter referred to that Committee is in an "ongoing review" status. It was further stated that any future problem/s with any child in the school must go through the protocols established and if need be brought to the attention of the Board, provided the situation had proceeded through each level.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 8:30pm.

Submitted by notes taken by Chair Joseph Sciamè and respectfully submitted.

Joseph Sciamè
Chair, BSNBCS

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