

**Hyde Leadership Charter School
Trustees Meeting
June 24, 2013
Minutes**

Trustees Present: Herb Fixler
Wilder Baker
Deborah Dumont
Herb Kaplan
Jeanette Melendez
David Steadly

Trustees Absent: Dennis Mehiel

Also present: Susan Marber, Volunteer
Joanne Goubourn, Executive Director Hyde Foundation
Eric.Langerman, Hyde Young Professionals Committee representative
Betsy Olney, Head of School
Mike McNamara, Chief Operating Officer
Staci Seeley Williams, Director of Development

With a quorum present the meeting began at 6:07 PM, Mr. Fixler presiding.

1. May 20, 2013 meeting minutes

A motion was made and the Board unanimously approved the minutes from the May 20, 2013 meeting. Mr. Steadly left the meeting at 6:16pm, after the Board minutes were approved.

2. Development Committee

Mr. Fixler opened the discussion by reporting that a search for a Development Director had begun with online postings and an initial candidate from a PR firm working with Hyde. Mr. Kaplan, Committee Chair, asked Ms. Seeley Williams to report on recent activities.

Seeley Williams reported that at a Development Committee meeting June 18, a Trustee questioned the \$30,000 FY13-14 target for Board giving as potentially too low. She announced Mr. Kaplan's campaign to raise funds from the Bronx business community had secured \$4,000 in donations—mostly in the form of ads placed in the Graduation Program. A Board trustee had previously offered to match these donations up to \$5,000.

Seeley Williams summarized the Young Professionals Committee (YPC) meeting of June 13 as a great program but under-attended due to heavy rain. Mr. Langerman was asked to offer his assessment of the YPC. He stated there were about 15 core members who were strongly committed to Hyde and added that fundraising could improve.

3. Marketing/Public Relations Committee

Mr. Fixler praised the latest newsletter and Ms. Marber reported on the success Moveable Content, Hyde's PR firm for graduation-related events, had secured coverage for Hyde's graduation in the New York Daily News and on Fox 5. She reminded the Trustees that the June 25 edition of Profiles in Character had been produced and distributed.

There was discussion among the Trustees, but no consensus, on whether Hyde should sign an on-going contract for public relations services.

4. Finance Committee Report

Mr. McNamara summarized financial results for May 2013 and the eleven months ended May 2013. He forecasted fiscal year results would be consistent with the eleven months and show Hyde would meet its financial obligations and report a surplus.

McNamara then described a plan to reduce medical plan costs without raising employees' out-of-pocket expenses. Hyde was preparing to enter into an arrangement with TriNet, a Professional Employer Organization (PEO) whereby Hyde's employees would become employees of TriNet for payroll and benefits purposes but remain Hyde employees for purposes of hiring, firing and day-to-day supervision and accountability. He described the plan in some detail and answered questions about it. After discussion, the Board approved the changes. Implementation was set to begin July 1, 2013.

5. Head of School Report

Ms. Olney raised two facility-related issues at the Bryant Avenue building. Environmental engineers hired by DOE and separately by Hyde have recorded high levels of carbon dioxide in classrooms. The cause seems to be the HVAC system not being sufficiently-sized or working properly to deliver enough fresh air from outside while maintaining cool enough air during hot weather. Hyde leadership has attempted to find a solution through DOE custodial services but has not yet gotten an action plan. Ms. Olney requested the Board get involved to help with the situation. A suggestion was made to organize a parent demonstration for better air quality. After questions and further discussion, Mr. Fixler offered to attend a meeting with DOE maintenance personnel.

Separately, a School Construction Authority project to replace the ceiling and floor in the 1st floor cafeteria was set to begin June 28. The first phase of that project is removal of asbestos in the floor tile. That phase was scheduled to be completed Sunday June 30, allowing Hyde staff to safely re-occupy the building on Monday July 1st. Prior to re-occupancy, DOE was to conduct air monitoring and lab testing to confirm there was no airborne asbestos in the building. Ms. Olney and Mr. McNamara decided to have all summer staff work from home or out of the high school on July 1st or until the "all clear" letter was received. The Board discussed whether Hyde should have its own inspection done prior to returning to work in the building.

Ms. Olney also proudly reported the 94% graduation rate for Hyde's first senior class. That rate easily outdistanced the city's 61% 4-year graduation rate and the District's 49% rate. She then went on to describe several milestone year-end events such as the Parent Graduation, the

Baccalaureate ceremony, the 8th Grade trip and the much anticipated High School Graduation set to occur June 29.

She discussed preliminary Regents data and the status of hiring for FY13-14.

6. Education Committee

Olney reported that a vote on a charter revision would need to take place at the July 2013 Board meeting.

7. Facilities Committee

Mr. Wilder reported on preliminary discussions about relocation ideas for the K-8 school. Several ideas were discussed.

8. Hyde Foundation Report

Ms. Goubourn congratulated the senior evaluations process. She said the Foundation was meeting internally on fundraising and supporting all Hyde school populations. She reported that the Foundation has funding available to Hyde Bronx for Hoffman training and Hyde Bronx's annual wilderness trip.

9. Other Business

At 8:04 PM, there being no other pressing business, a motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Minutes prepared by Michael McNamara