

Hyde Leadership Charter School
Trustees Meeting: Minutes
February 28, 2022
830 Hunts Point Avenue, Bronx, NY 10474
(meeting held by video conference)

Trustees Present Via Video conference:

Herb Fixler	Susan Engel
Ruth Jarmul	Herb Kaplan
Deborah Dumont	Nick Ober
Susan Fine	

Trustees Not Present:

John Espinosa
Tony Stoupas

Also Present Via Video conference:

Celia Sosa, Executive Director
Stephen Trowbridge, Chief Financial & Operating Officer
Valarie Hunsinger, Director of Development & Marketing
Maya Severns, Incoming Director of Development & Marketing.
Sandra Sena, Executive Assistant to the Senior Leadership Team
David Schatsky, Managing Director, Deloitte (prospective Trustee)

The meeting began at 6:03pm. Mr. Fixler presided. A quorum was present.

1. Approve minutes from January 24th meeting

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved by the Trustees present to approve the minutes from the January 24, 2022 meeting.

2. Election of David Schatsky as Trustee:

Election of David Schatsky - Nominated by Ruth Jarmul. Seconded by Susan Engel.
Unanimously approved by the Trustees present. Trustee documents sent to Mr. Schatsky.

3. Executive Director's Report:

Ms. Sosa presented photos and events from the 100th day of school.
Charter Renewal application - Completed application was sent on Feb 16th and SUNY will visit 9th & 10th and school spaces are at their best. SUNY will meet with the Executive committee, teacher focus groups, parent focus groups and the Board via zoom.

Ms. Sosa reported that we meet all of SUNY's financial expectations.

Ms. Sosa reported that we are at a HS graduation rate of 90%. She also noted that student and staff retention rate had increased during the pandemic, currently at 83%. Ms. Sosa stated that focused areas of improvement are the exam rates in K-8, as well as on student centered learning and that we are thinking differently about co-teaching models.

Rebranding - A Public Hearing, which is part of the renaming approval process is scheduled for March 8th, where District 8 schools are invited. Ms. Sosa has prepared talking points, with the focus on what we have achieved and the name change will reflect being even more in touch with the community we serve. A consultant is being considered to help develop the social media strategy. Susan Fine offered to refer a media firm she has had positive experiences with.

Logo selection - Ms. Sosa presented 10 logo design options for Board approval. Ms. Sosa reported that both a word and illustration trademarks were filed with the goal of cohesion across all trademarks. The Board approved option #3

Covid Policies - updates. Mask optional protocols were discussed, and it was agreed to continue following DOE guidance, and letters will continue to be sent to families to keep them up to date.

Recruitment & enrollment - Ms. Sosa reported that we have partnered with a staff recruitment firm.

4. Finance Committee:

Mr. Trowbridge acknowledged distributing a full financial report to the trustees in advance of the meeting. Mr. Trowbridge provided a year-to-date (YTD) financial review through January 2022 and noted that the school's YTD revenue was favorable by \$3,185,000 (which includes \$3,131,000 for recognition of PPP Loan forgiveness) and that the expenses were unfavorable by approximately \$422,000. Mr. Trowbridge also reported that the YTD net surplus was favorable by \$2,763,000, and that all SUNY fiscal benchmarks were either good or excellent. Mr. Trowbridge stated that the liquidity covenant is easily satisfied. Waiting on approval of per pupil funding. Should be approved by the NYS soon.

5. Development Committee:

Ms. Sosa welcomed Maya Severns as Ms. Hunsinger's successor. Ms. Hunsinger provided a fundraising update noting that we had reached 65% of our goal. Ms. Hunsinger highlighted the upcoming Spring Social and requested assistance with sponsors, auction items, and committee participation. Ms. Hunsinger provided an update on upcoming foundation work. Ms. Sosa discussed a meeting about the Bloomberg Initiative with David Umansky of Civic Builders and he noted that the Bloomberg Initiative will look at new city wide programs. Ms. Sosa noted that Mr. Umansky recommended engaging the school construction authority for building concerns. Mr. Fixler noted that he will look into this.

6. Results of Board Self-Assessment:

Herb Fixler presented the results of the recently completed Board self assessment followed by a brief discussion.

7. Marketing Committee:

Ruth Jarmul is working while in transition from Valarie to Maya with rebranding being the current focus.

8. Facilities Committee:

Nick Ober -working on how to better utilize existing space for lower division through Building Council meetings and constructively working with community advocacy. Will establish facility 3 and 5 year goals.

9. Any other business:

Herb Fixler suggested that current Board assignments should be reevaluated; with the expansion of the Board to 10 members, there might be some realignment. Stephen Trowbridge stated that a shared drive for the Board is under construction.

10. Public Comments: NA

11. Adjournment: 7:57pm

Minutes prepared by Sandra Sena and Stephen Trowbridge.