

**Hyde Leadership Charter School
Trustees Meeting
December 16, 2013
Minutes**

Trustees Present: Wilder Baker
Herb Fixler
Dennis Mehiel
Deborah Dumont
David Steadly
Herb Kaplan

Trustees Absent: Jeanette Melendez
David Sachs

Also present: Betsy Olney, Head of School
Craig Mills, Development Director Candidate

With a quorum present the meeting began at 6:00 PM, Mr. Fixler presiding.

1. Development Discussion

The Young Professionals Committee December event was a big success. The Development Department and Alumni Affairs Manager are jointly working on an event for graduated Hyde students to be held January 10, 2014. Mr. Mills is reviewing and updating Department responsibilities. He plans to increase the school's use of social media and has reached out to the Verizon Foundation. Mr. Mills reminded the Trustees to follow up on the annual campaign.

2. November 25, 2013 meeting minutes

A motion was made and the Board unanimously approved the minutes from the November 25, 2013 meeting.

3. Head of School Report

Ms. Olney reported on a number of school activities including a trip by a group of Upper Elementary students to Washington, D.C. to build two mobile gardens. There was a film festival at the High School, athletic events throughout the school and activities with seniors around leadership.

The High School is preparing for Regents testing in January. The Middle School is struggling with curriculum and morale. David Leiben and Scholastic are supporting the curriculum implementation. Olney reported some progress with Information Technology but also some continuing struggles. She informed the Trustees that there is anxiety at the school over the

Executive Director search. The Board will begin looking for ways to identify an Interim Executive Director in the event the search for a permanent replacement is not successful.

4. Finance Committee

Mr. Steadly reported that through November, the school's surplus is \$83,000 favorable to budget. Hyde expects to receive the 2010 DASNY grant prior to year-end which was not budgeted. He updated the board on work being done on the school's retirement plan. He hopes there can be a seminar to educate employees on their retirement planning options.

5. Nominating Committee

There was no formal report.

6. Human Resources Committee

The Executive Director Search Committee (Mr. Fixler, Ms. Dumont and Mr. Baker) have been active. The results of the focus group sessions were distributed to Trustees. Ms. Dumont reported that she has attended meetings with Ms. Olney and Mr. McNamara regarding strategic planning prior to the formal 2014-15 budgeting process.

7. Facilities Committee

Hyde hopes to install fiber optic service to both schools and updated cabling in the Middle School over the summer break. Heat has been inconsistent on the first floor of the Bryant Avenue building. Hyde is working with the DOE Head Custodian on this issue.

8. Hyde Foundation Report

Representatives of the Board and the Foundation were to talk December 17 to finalize the Agreement.

9. Other Business

Mr. Kaplan voiced his recommendation that the Trustees continue to discuss Board development.

10. Public Comments

None.