

Hyde-Bronx Trustee Meeting Minutes
Hyde Leadership Charter School
Trustees Meeting
February 22, 2016
830 Hunts Point Avenue Bronx NY 10474
Minutes

Trustees Present: Herb Fixler
 Deborah Dumont
 Maureen Singer
 Oz Hanley
 Jeanette Melendez
 Dennis Mehiel
 Wilder Baker

Trustees Absent: Herb Kaplan
 David Steadly

Also present: Thomas Sturtevant, Executive Director
 Josh Williams, Director of Development and Communications

With a quorum present the meeting began at 6:06 PM, Mr. Fixler presiding.

1. January 9, 2016 meeting minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved by the Trustees present to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2016 Board meeting.

2. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Sturtevant discussed the success of Hyde's summer learning programs, including data regarding students' literacy growth over summer months. Mr. Sturtevant noted the importance of quality teachers, structured curriculum, and inquiry-based methods of instruction allowing for student choice. Mr. Sturtevant also identified that attendance rates at Hyde's 2015 summer program met or exceeded both prior year's attendance and the New York City summer school attendance average. Members of the Board recommended that this positive information be communicated with Hyde teachers and families.

Mr. Sturtevant informed the Board that Hyde Elementary School Director Peter Anderson has accepted a position with Washington Latin Public Charter School in Washington D.C. for

the 2016-2017 school year. Hyde will be using this transition as an opportunity to engage teachers and parents in the search for a new Elementary School Director.

Mr. Sturtevant reported that the Department of Education will likely visit Hyde in March for its annual site visit; details are still pending. Hyde's request for additional enrollment is also still under consideration at the State Department of Education.

Mr. Sturtevant reported that Laura Troy has been promoted to Director of Recruitment. Ms. Troy has years of experience as a Hyde High School math teacher and department head. She has effectively transitioned into her new role.

Mr. Sturtevant informed the Board of a recent incident during Hyde's 4th and 5th grade students' recess, in which a flasher outside of the playground fence approached a small group of children and revealed himself. Hyde school leaders worked with the police and other schools in the building to ensure the safety of all children. A shelter in drill was conducted February 26 building wide to reinforce protocols for potentially dangerous situations outside the school building. Mr. Sturtevant reported that we will continue to coordinate with the other schools in the building on our on-going safety planning and practice.

3. Development Committee

Mr. Williams showed YTD January results. He indicated that while fundraising started strong for the year, November through December fundraising was lower than expected. Mr. Williams expressed that while foundation and grant giving was up for the year, individual and board giving was below expected. Mr. Fixler encouraged the Board to finish strong and to make contributions to the school.

Mr. Williams reported on recent development activity, including a \$50,000 gift from The Frances L. & Edwin L. Cummings Memorial Fund that was recently received for support of Hyde's Kindergarten ICT program. He updated the trustees on other development and communications activity, such as an outstanding grant request to The AthLife Foundation, personalized thank you notes that were delivered to all donors, and upgrades to the website.

Mr. Fixler encouraged Hyde to create a short promotional video that articulates the mission and the success of the school.

Mr. Fixler, Ms. Singer, and Mr. Baker volunteered to form a Website Committee to provide feedback and ideas regarding the new Hyde website currently under construction.

4. Finance Committee

In Mr. McNamara’s absence, Mr. Sturtevant reported that January results were in line with recent months’ performance. He also conveyed a note from Mr. McNamara, “Hyde received a payment from DOE this morning of \$2,588,180. This is the 5th of 6 bi-monthly payments for General Education and Special Education services in FY16. The payment is down \$1,696 from the last one. General Education enrollment is at 934 students—below Hyde’s current 940 cap. The school is not taking new students so that will carry forward. Special Education revenue is up as Liz Springer, Director of the Special Education Department, continues to get approval for Special Education services for students who need them.”

5. Human Resources

No report.

6. Marketing/Advertising/Public Relations Committee

No report.

7. Facilities Committee

No report.

8. Education Committee

Mr. Fixler requested an update regarding an earlier Trustee meeting, in which attending Hyde parents expressed concern over a variety of issues, including school uniform policies, the clarity of communications, and support for new teachers. Mr. Sturtevant indicated that these issues are currently being resolved by School Directors and that the Parent Council has been established as a forum for responding to parent concerns.

9. Government Relations

No report.

10. Hyde Foundation

No report.

11. Other Business

None.

12. Public Comments

None.

13. Executive Session

N/A

14. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Minutes prepared by Josh Williams.