

Hyde-Bronx Trustee Meeting Minutes
Hyde Leadership Charter School
Trustees Meeting
July 25, 2016
830 Hunts Point Avenue Bronx NY 10474
Minutes

Trustees Present: Herb Fixler
 David Steadly
 Richard Romanoff
 Deborah Dumont
 Maureen Singer

Trustees Absent: Herb Kaplan
 Oz Hanley
 Dennis Mehiel
 Jeanette Melendez

Also present: Thomas Sturtevant, Executive Director
 Elizabeth Hittenmark, Director of Family Support
 Matt Hittenmark, Director of College Counseling & Post-Secondary Success
 Michelle Lopez, Charter School Business Management
 Ruth Jarmul, Guest
 Tony Stoops, Guest

The meeting began at 6:15 PM, Mr. Fixler presiding.

1. June 27, 2016 meeting minutes

Without a quorum present, the group deferred approval of the June meeting minutes. Minutes from the June 27, 2016 meeting will be reviewed on August 22, 2016.

2. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Sturtevant reported on the ongoing elementary school leadership transition and noted that the new Hyde Elementary School Director, Ms. Amaris Obregon, is doing well in the role. Mr. Sturtevant remarked that Ms. Obregon is focusing on team-building, optimizing physical learning and office spaces, implementing a “model” classroom approach, and ensuring that new initiatives are rolled out over time. Mr. Sturtevant also indicated that Ms. Obregon and her team are collaborating in a “retreat” setting.

Mr. Sturtevant reported on the progress of the Hyde K-8 school's restructuring, and noted that transitioning middle school from serving three grades (6th through 8th) to serving five grades (4th through 8th) is a new opportunity for the middle school senior leaders this year.

Mr. Sturtevant provided a hiring update. He noted that hiring is complete for Hyde Elementary School and Hyde High School, but that Hyde Middle School is still in need of teachers, in particular 4th and 5th grade teachers, as well as special education teachers. He added that the school will maintain its commitment to only selecting highly-qualified educators to serve our students.

Mr. Sturtevant noted that the New York State Grades 3-8 test scores have not yet been released.

Mr. Sturtevant reported that the Hyde Leadership Charter School annual report and annual quality review will be submitted on schedule. With regards to the school's progress, he noted that high school results are excellent, and the school is striving to improve elementary and middle school state test results. With regards to the middle school, a strategy has been implemented to provide additional Regents exams to middle school students, additional resources and test preparation, additional writing practice across the curriculum, additional independent work for students, as well as collective problem solving.

Mr. Sturtevant commented that Chief Operating Officer, Michael McNamara, is continuing to attend to his health and is not scheduled to return to the school until the late fall. He noted that the school is continuing to work with Michelle Lopez and the Charter School Business Management organization, in Mr. McNamara's absence.

Mr. Sturtevant reported that Director of Development and Communications, Josh Williams, was recently married and would be traveling through the remainder of July.

Mr. Sturtevant noted that the school's new website would be going live by August 1st, 2016.

Mr. Sturtevant remarked that the school is continuing to invest in technology to drive inquiry-based learning. Beginning in 2016 – 2017, Hyde's 4th through 12th grade students will have increased access to Chromebook computers on a near 1:1 basis.

Mr. Sturtevant invited the school's Director of College Counseling and Post-Secondary Success to present on the state of students' college enrollment, college persistence, and college success.

3. Finance Committee

Ms. Lopez reported on the status of Hyde-Bronx's year-to-date financial performance. She noted that the school has closed its books for June and is now preparing for its annual audit. She indicated that the year's financials have been on par with expectations. She also commented that she has been impressed with the school's team, as well as documentation processes.

4. Development Committee

In his absence, Mr. Williams provided a written report for the Board to review. In it, he documented that the school will exceed fundraising goals for the year, reported that the school's new website will soon be live, and noted that, when he returns, his energy will be focused on grant writing activity and 10th anniversary celebration planning.

5. Human Resources

No report.

6. Marketing/Advertising/Public Relations Committee

No report.

7. Facilities Committee

No report.

8. Education Committee

No report.

9. Government Relations

No report.

10. Hyde Foundation

Mr. Fixler reported that Hyde-Bronx and the Hyde Foundation are currently negotiating their partnership agreement.

11. Other Business

No report.

12. Public Comments

No report.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Minutes prepared by Tom Sturtevant and Josh Williams.