

**Hyde Leadership Charter School
Trustees Meeting
August 27, 2012
Minutes**

Trustees Present: Herb Fixler
 Deborah Dumont
 Shara Freeman
 David Steadly
 Wilder Baker
 Herb Kaplan

Trustees Absent: None

Also present: Dennis Mehiel (Trustee nominee)
 Betsy Olney, Head of School
 Mike McNamara, Chief Operating Officer
 Staci Seeley, Director of Development
 Joanne Goubourne, Hyde Foundation
 Peter Anderson (K-8 Director)
 Celia Sosa (High School Director)

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

1. July 2012 meeting minutes:

The Board unanimously approved the minutes from the July 23, 2012 meeting.

2. Development Committee Report

Ms. Freeman reported on a number of initiatives for 2012-13 including the 2013 Campaign and a comprehensive calendar of events to be distributed to Trustees in September. Discussion ensued about targeting the message to donors, recognition for different donation levels and other items.

3. Finance Committee Report

Mr. McNamara presented fiscal year-end preliminary financial results and the status of the financial audit currently underway. He pointed out an accounting rule related to reporting of annual rent that came out of the audit. He also presented projected lease year performance and updated the Trustees on the status of lease covenant compliance. Mr. Fixler made recommendations regarding communications with the school's landlord regarding the lease.

After discussion, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to amend the previously approved 2012-13 budget to raise the combined fundraising target to \$450,000 and to raise the expense contingency to \$224,500.

4. Head of School Report

Ms. Olney summarized results for High School regents and 3-8 testing previously discussed at the July Board of Trustees meeting. She noted a need for increased focus on math this year. She introduced Ms. Sosa and Mr. Anderson and asked each to discuss key focus areas. Ms. Sosa discussed efforts to shift student attitudes from passing Regents to college readiness. Mr. Anderson discussed the status of reorganizing the K-8 staffing and the need to focus on the younger grades as a platform for sustained academic achievement.

Ms. Seeley updated the Board members present on activities with the Young Professionals and Leadership Council groups. The Board discussed the 2012-13 budget for fundraising and the ramifications of having an internal budget for financial planning purposes and an external budget for fundraising purposes. Consensus emerged that there should be a single budget and that a vote be taken at the August board meeting to amend the budget approved at the June 25, 2012 meeting to add \$100,000 to the fundraising target and \$100,000 to the contingency budget so that the overall budget surplus does not change.

5. Nominating Committee Report

Ms. Olney reported that a new parent Trustee candidate was ill and could not attend the August Board meeting but planned to attend in September. Mr. Wilder reported on outreach efforts targeted at Bronx-based new trustee candidates.

6. Education Committee Report

Ms. Dumont reported that she, Mr. Fixler, Ms. Olney, Ms. Sosa and Ms. Springer, Director of the Special Education Department had met to discuss academic challenges. She encouraged other Trustees to join the Committee.

7. Facilities Committee

Mr. Fixler asked about initiatives to improve building conditions at 730 Bryant Avenue. Ms. Dumont listed several ideas to address air quality and lack of natural light. Ms. Olney requested the Board continue looking for alternative sites for the K-8 school.

8. Human Resources Committee

Ms. Dumont reported she is working with Ms. Olney and Mr. McNamara on salary scales and employee retention.

9. Other Business

The Trustees agreed to hold their annual retreat on Saturday January 5, 2013.

At 7:55 PM, there being no other pressing business, a motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Minutes prepared by Michael McNamara