

**Hyde Leadership Charter School  
Trustees Meeting  
March 18, 2013  
Minutes**

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

Trustees Absent:           Jeanette Melendez

Also present:               Betsy Olney, Head of School  
                                  Mike McNamara, Chief Operating Officer  
                                  Staci Seeley Williams, Director of Development  
                                  Joanne Goubourn, Hyde Foundation Executive Director

With a quorum present, the meeting began at 6:08 PM, Mr. Fixler presiding.

**1. February 25, 2013 meeting minutes**

A motion was made and the Board unanimously approved the minutes from the February 28, 2013 meeting.

**2. Development Committee Report**

Ms. Seeley Williams summarized year to date fundraising results. The Board was updated on the activities of the Leadership Committee and Young Professionals group. Mr. Steadly asked if the next Board member could come from the Young Professionals. The first edition of Hyde's e-newsletter was released with good feedback. A meeting was scheduled for March 22 with an outside consulting group to explore a fundraising campaign.

**3. Finance Committee Report**

Mr. McNamara reported that the Finance Committee had met via phone conference and had reviewed the school's financial position and results through February 28, 2013. He referred Board Trustees to the financial package they had received via email and offered to answer any questions at the Board meeting or subsequent to the meeting.

**4. Nominating Committee Report**

There was no report from the committee.

**5. Human Resources Committee**

There was no report from the committee.

## **6. Facilities Committee**

Ms. Olney reported that the Hunts Point Alliance for Children (HPAC) has hired a new Chief Operating Officer who will assist Hyde in a number of ways, including its facilities needs.

## **7. Education Committee Report**

Ms. Dumont reported that the Committee was working on academic progress metrics with a current focus on developing meaningful metrics for the lowest third performers in Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade.

## **8. Hyde Foundation**

Ms. Goubourne reported there had been a meeting with representatives from the Boards of both the Hyde Foundation and Hyde Bronx as well as Hyde Bronx's Head of School. All parties are looking for an effective way forward to meet the needs of the students at Hyde Bronx. It was reported the services agreement between the Hyde Foundation and Hyde Bronx expires June 30, 2013 and the parties were reviewing the terms with the intent to renew with appropriate modifications. Mr. Fixler reported that he and Jay Puckett, the President of the Hyde Foundation Board arranged to talk monthly to discuss any relevant issues.

## **9. Head of School Report**

Ms. Olney briefed the Board on a disciplinary matter with one of the high school students. It was her decision to expel the student and the student's parent had appealed that decision to the Board. After discussion, it was agreed to hold a special meeting of the Board of Trustees on March 22, 2013 to make a decision on the appeal.

## **10. Other Business**

At the February 2013 Board meeting, it was decided to hold an open discussion among the Trustees at the March meeting. Mr. Mehiel led the discussion and asked the Board Trustees and other individuals present at the meeting to list what each thought were the top priorities for the Board. After canvassing the individuals present, fundraising and development emerged as the top priority for Board members. Several Trustees offered their views on the fundraising process and Board engagement with fundraising. It was decided to hold in-person rather than telephonic Development Committee meetings for the next three months to see if new ideas could be generated. There was a recommendation to spend 30 to 45 minutes at each Board meeting discussing development activities.

Board development, leadership support and the chronic facility issues with the 730 Bryant Avenue facility were also priorities for greater Board-level engagement.

At 8:00 PM, there being no other pressing business, a motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Minutes prepared by Michael McNamara