



## Leaders In Our Neighborhood Charter School

### Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2022

(meeting held at 830 Hunts Point Ave, Bronx, NY and 3701 Henry Hudson Parkway,  
Apt 6D, Riverdale, NY)

#### Trustees Present:

Herb Fixler  
Ruth Jarmul  
Nick Ober  
David Schatsky  
Tony Stoupas  
Herb Kaplan

#### Trustees Present Via Video conference:

Susan Engel  
Thomas Sturtevant

#### Trustees Absent:

Susan Fine  
Deborah Dumont

#### Also Present:

Celia Sosa, Executive Director  
Stephen Trowbridge, Chief Financial & Operating Officer  
Maya Severns, Director of Development & Marketing  
Keveney McCrillis, Executive Assistant to the Senior Leadership Team  
Christine Moloughney - Froman, Marlla Torres, Tiffany Mayol, Elizabeth  
Hittenmark, Yashika Walker, Davina Davis, and Yris Moran - members of the LION  
team

**The meeting began at 6:03 PM, and Mr. Fixler presided. A quorum was present.**

#### **1. Approve Minutes from the August 22nd Meeting**

Herb Fixler presided. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved by the Trustees present to approve the minutes from the August 22, 2022, meeting.

## **2. Executive Director's Report**

Celia Sosa reported families were in the building for our Back to School event, which went very well. Celia reported on our discipline manual, including changes and how we are working on this with our lawyer and Directors of School Culture. The Discipline Manual will be ready for review at the October Board meeting. Celia sought approval for a board resolution to take necessary action to request an impartial hearing or injunctive relief for a LION student per the recommendation of our lawyer.

Herb Fixler proposed to resolve the authorization of Celia Sosa as the Executive Director to take all necessary actions as guided by the legal counsel. This motion was seconded and then unanimously approved by all voting members.

Celia reported on average class size and class size range in response to the new newly passed state legislature regarding class size.

Celia discussed the APPR and our goals. State assessment scores are still embargoed, so she could not report on our performance. David Schatsky asked about the purpose of the embargo. Celia explained.

## **3. Discussion with FSP Coordinators and Directors of School Culture on how we engage with LION families**

Yris Moran discussed how we engage and support our families and staff to work with families. This includes our retreats, events, and meetings that promote social-emotional growth for all. Susan Engel asked about attendance. Yris reported out. Tiffany Mayol shared-out about Family Discovery Nights - a time for self-reflection. Marlla Torres spoke about a family retreat last year. Christine Moloughney-Froman spoke about our monthly family nights. Susan Engel asked about attendance for these events. Yris reported out. Yashika Walker spoke about High School family orientation, college trips, and College Signing Day. Marlla Torres spoke about the importance of community partnerships along with family and school partnerships and the efforts we are taking to partner with the community. Elizabeth Hittenmark spoke about the work we are doing to help unhoused families as well as our partnership with the 41st precinct and Urban Health. Tom Sturtevant asked whether we are doing enough if we need more resources, and how we know. Tiffany Mayol responded. Tony Stoupas asked what the board could do to help. Yashika Walker responded. Herb Kaplan gave thanks to the team. Herb Fixler agreed. Davina Davis spoke about how our students do some of the same work in weekly LION Pride groups and school meetings. Tony Stoupas asked what call of action we should take. Herb Fixler suggested we should focus more on the family partnership portion of our school.

## **4. Finance Report – Chief Financial Officer**

Stephen Trowbridge went over our Summer Boost program and the purchasing that happens in July and August. He discussed state and federal budgeting as it compares to



our budget currently. Stephen discussed the expense report and, specifically, the personnel line of our expenses. He summarized our current enrollment in relation to the budget. Stephen reported our audit schedule and that we are currently on track. We will vote on the approval of our financial statements at the October meeting.

#### **5. Development Report – Director of Development & Marketing**

Maya Severns highlighted some individual and corporate donations. She reported on some of the new grants we've received. Maya then shared out the grants and marketing projects that are in the works.

#### **6. Board Committee Reports**

The facilities update was shared by Celia Sosa, including our recent work on pest control. She indicated the timeline for the completion of the building repairs is still to be determined.

#### **5. Special Board Meeting October 15**

There will be an obligatory special meeting from 9 AM - 1 PM on Saturday, October 15th. We aim to circulate a data package, including a SWOT analysis, before this meeting.

#### **7. Any Other Business**

None

#### **8. Public Comments**

None

#### **9. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Minutes prepared by Keveney McCrillis and reviewed by Stephen Trowbridge