



**Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda
December 19, 2022
The meeting was held remotely on Zoom**

Board Trustees in attendance:

Tony Stoupas (acting as chairman)
Tom Sturtevant
Ruth Jarmul
Deborah Dumont
David Schatsky

Board Trustees absent:

Susan Engel
Nick Ober
Herb Fixler
Herb Kaplan
Susan Fine

Also in attendance:

Celia Sosa, Executive Director
Stephen Trowbridge, Chief Financial and Operation Officer
Lex Zain, Chief Academic Officer
Maya Severns, Director of Marketing and Development
Keveney McCrillis, Executive Assistant to the Senior Leadership Team

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 by Tony Stoupas, acting as chairman in Herb Fixler's absence. We couldn't approve the minutes because we didn't have a quorum.

We moved right into the Executive Director's Report given by Celia Sosa. She reminded everyone that we were renewed for a full charter term. We will be monitored by two qualitative site visits, one in year two and one in year four. Celia then reviewed the academic strategic plan document that was shared before the meeting. Tony Stoupas recommended we go into detail later when we have more board members available to give feedback and review.

Tony Stoupas asked for interim goals that the board can track and be measurable. Deborah Dumont asked if we should review once a quarter or semi-annually. Tony agreed there should be a dashboard we can reference to check in on the progress toward goals. Celia committed to working with the Education Committee on a dashboard to track data. Tony asked that the Education Committee decide which academic goals are relevant for the board to look at and track.

Celia reported that after board feedback last month, the offer letter timeline was pushed back to mid-February. She shared that we are looking at attracting and retaining talent by comparing our pay and benefits with the other charter schools and the DOE and then looking at that data. Celia discussed a serious issue, a recent uptick in violence in the neighborhood

against staff members. We discussed asking for an increase in police presence and other possible solutions. Celia noted that our student and family handbook was recently revised and sent for translation to align us better K-12. She then spoke about the project we are working on with Deloitte and the Step Up NYC team. Celia announced that the School Construction Authority project currently happening at 730 Bryant might close down that building for the summer. There will be more information about this next month. LION plans to participate in the Charter Center's advocacy day in January. The board discussed the importance of this. Celia then shared that the number of staff members with COVID and out sick has increased.

Stephen Trowbridge gave his Finance Report. He reported that although we were currently slightly unfavorable on expenses, we are forecasting that we are on track to make our budget at the end of the fiscal year. Stephen then shared that he and Celia met to finalize the interest swap, and it was done and now closed.

Maya Severns then gave her Development and Marketing Report. She shared some social media posts which were recently designed. Then shared that we were at 90% of our goal at the end of the calendar year. Maya said the team is pushing forward to meet our goals in all categories. She shared some positive news from the Giving Tuesday campaign. She spoke about our annual appeal and the materials the board was provided to assist in this appeal, then discussed other upcoming events and activities. She shared that Schola has sent us a short promotional video they shot, and they will, later on, create a longer video we can use.

Tony then asked our board committees to share out. Stephen Trowbridge shared out a facilities committee update, including the installation of a partition in the gym and a sample resurfacing tiles in the men's bathroom. Stephen shared that the Finance Committee would be meeting in early January. The Education Committee had previously shared out during the Executive Report.

Tony Stoupas asked for other business, but there was none. He then asked if there were any public comments, but there were none.

Tony Stoupas discussed a possible later date for our annual board retreat since not everyone can attend the original proposed date. He will discuss this with Herb Fixler and get back to everyone.

Tony Stoupas motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:20. Deborah Dumont seconded. It was unanimously approved, and the meeting was adjourned.

Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule - 2022-23

July 25	November 28	March 27
August 22	December 19	April 24
September 19	February 4**	May 22
October 17	February 27	June 26

** Board retreat