



## **Board Meeting Minutes**

**October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - 5:00PM**

The Board of Trustees of the NYC Autism Charter School (NYCACs) met on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the NYC Autism Charter School 433 East 100<sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10029

### **Attending Trustees:**

Carol Santiago  
Ashley Garrett  
Alvin Shih  
Hannah Hoch  
Mitchel Baum  
Ilene Lainer  
Benjamin Hartman  
Hugh O'Rourke  
Rick Larios

### **Absent Trustees:**

Paul O'Neill  
Chas Chigas

### **Attendees at the Invitation of the Board:**

Julie Fisher, Executive Director  
Mark Saretsky, Chief Financial Officer  
Nicole Pearson, Director of Education  
Moir Cray, Director of Transition and Community Outreach  
Susan Michaelson, Special Education Compliance Specialist  
Christina Secharan, Executive Administrative Assistant (temp)

#### **1. Call to order**

**Action:** Ms. Santiago, President, called the general meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

#### **2. Board Business**

- a. The minutes of September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting were reviewed at 5:04pm.  
**Action:** Mr. Larios requested a motion to approve minutes. Board voted and minutes were unanimously approved.

#### **3. Committee Updates**

- a. At 5:05pm Ms. Santiago started a discussion on the Root Cause consultation. Ms. Fisher informed the BOT that Root Cause would conduct interviews on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Tuesday. They will also reach out to certain Board

members to schedule interviews, and will present findings after Phase 1 to the larger Board at the November meeting.

#### **4. Governance**

- a. At 5:08pm Ms. Fisher discussed the upcoming Junior Board Breakfast, which will occur on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Tuesday and presented the official title as “Junior Board”.
- b. At 5:15pm Ms. Santiago and Ms. Garrett shared feedback from a Governance Workshop they attended, sponsored by the NYC DOE.

#### **5. Education Update**

- a. At 5:19 Ms. Cray updated the Board on Community Outreach, including a new Basketball program pilot and Peer Mentoring program with Manhattan School of Science and Math.
- b. Ms. Pearson informed the Board at 5:27pm of a new computer based format for the New York State Alternate Assessment (Dynamic Learning Maps) replacing the portfolio style assessment performed in the past for students, and discussed how this impacts deadlines.

#### **6. Executive Session (5:33pm)**

- a. At 5:33, Ms. Santiago requested an Executive Session in order to discuss non-public HR matters.

#### **7. At 6:34pm the Board of Trustees concluded the Executive Session.**

**8. Action:** Ms. Lainer motioned to allocate \$10,000 towards improved computer security and Mr. Hartman seconded the motion at 6:35pm. Ms. Santiago moved committee to vote and the Board was unanimous in approval.

**9. Action:** Ms. Garrett motioned to award a bonus in the amount of \$10,000 in recognition of Ms. Fisher’s performance during the school year and Mr. Baum seconded the motion. Ms. Santiago moved to vote and the Board was unanimous in its approval.

#### **10. Finance**

- a. At 6:36pm Mr. O’Rourke opened the discussion on the school’s financial standing.
- b. Mr. Saretsky provides an overview at 6:39pm of the recent Audit that resulted in a clean management letter.
- c. At 6:43pm Mr. Saretsky reviewed the most recent quarter with the Board with a strong net YTD (Year to Date).

#### **11. Additional Items and Public Comments**

#### **12. Closing Items**

- a. **Action:** Mr. Larios motioned to adjourn and Mr. Hartman seconded the motion. Ms. Santiago moved to vote, in which meeting adjournment is unanimously approved at 6:48pm.