



Bronx Board Meeting Minutes

May 8th, 2017 – 5:45PM

The Board of Trustees of the NYC Autism Charter School (NYCACs) met on Monday, May 8th, 2017 at the NYC Autism Charter School 433 East 100th Street New York, NY 10029

Attending Trustees:

Hugh O'Rourke
Hannah Hoch (Video Conferenced In)
Alvin Shih
Rick Larios
Christine Sandler
Paul O'Neill
Pier LeGendre

Absent Trustees:

Carol Santiago
Ashley Garrett
Chas Chigas
Ilene Lainer
Mitchel Baum
Benjamin Hartman

Attendees at the Invitation of the Board:

Julie Fisher, Executive Director
Mark Saretsky, Chief Financial Officer
Jessica Seeman, Head of School – East Harlem
Jennifer Connelly, Head of School – Bronx
Susan Michaelson, Special Compliance Officer
Christina Secharan, Executive Administrative Assistant

1. Call to order

Action: Mr. O'Rourke called the NYCACS Bronx general meeting to order at 5:26pm.

2. Board Business

a. Minutes from 03-06-2017

- At 5:27pm the minutes of April 3, 2017 Bronx Board meeting were reviewed.
Action: Mr. Larios requested a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Shih seconded the motion. The Board voted and the minutes were approved, with the exception of one abstention from Mr. O'Neill.

3. General Updates

a. Facility/Space Planning

- At 5:28pm Mr. Saretsky updated the Board on the walk-through that took place at the Bronx school building. All necessary vendors attended, and they are in the process of providing quotes for construction and other necessary improvements. There will

be one more walk-through before construction in August. Ms. Fisher suggested having the September Board meeting at NYCACS Bronx, providing the opportunity for Board members to visit the school.

b. Lottery

- At 5:30pm Ms. Connelly informed the Board that there were 118 applications received for the Bronx school. Five of those applicants are within enrollment age range AND reside within the local school district.

c. Draft Budget Status

- At 5:34pm Mr. Saretsky informed the Board that the Bronx budget would mostly be funded by grants for year one. There is a large deficit due to limited per pupil funding, and the cost of preparing the school to open for the Sept 2017-2018 school year.

4. Operations Committee

a. Proposed Salary Ladder

- At 5:36pm Mr. Saretsky addressed the Board about the proposed salary ladder increase (previously reviewed by both Operations and Finance committees) based on data provide by New York City Charter School Center. **Action:** Ms. Sandler motioned to approve the salary ladder proposal. Mr. Shih seconded the motion in which the Board voted, and it was unanimously approved.

b. PEO Benefits Rollout

- Mr. Saretsky summarized the new benefits to be rolled out to staff by Little Bird, the new PEO vendor. Open enrollment for staff will occur in mid June and Little Bird will conduct a formal presentation for staff to answer questions on June 8th.

c. Thread Data Collection System

- At 5:38pm Ms. Connelly provided a summary of the Thread data collection system (currently being piloted at NYCACS East Harlem) in the hopes of gaining support for full implementation at NYCACS Bronx in September. Ms. Connelly recently presented an in-depth review of the program to the Operations Committee members who supported moving forward with a Thread contract. Mr. Saretsky informed the Board that the cost for year one for Thread, and the hardware to utilize it, would be about \$6,000. After year one the cost of the program will be \$15.00 per month per student. **Action:** Mr. Larios motioned to move forward with a contract with Thread. Mr. O'Neill seconded the motion in which the Board voted, and it was unanimously approved.

5. Closing Items

- a. Action:** Mr. O'Neill motioned to adjourn the NYCACS Bronx meeting. Ms. Sandler seconded the motion in which the Board voted, and the NYCACS Bronx meeting was adjourned at 5:52pm.