



Thursday, June 23, 2022 @6:00 p.m.
Board Meeting via Zoom

Meeting ID: 812 8786 0889
Passcode: =cmL&4

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of May Minutes
3. Budget Approval
4. Board Committee Reports
5. Public Comment
6. Adjournment

Trustees Present

Richard Bayles
Gretchen Pusch
Noel Acey
Justin Toliver
Reby Gulcan
Susan Reid
Jonathan Stearns

Storefront Academy Staff:

Dr. Nicole Campbell, CEO

Mr. Stuart Wolf, Director of Finance

Ms. Natalia Perez, Director of Communications

Ms. Carol Singletary, South Bronx Principal

Ms. Maria Ruiz, CEO Executive Assistant

Ms. Yoselyn Fernandez, South Bronx Assistant Principal

Ms. Jennifer Johnson, Director of Student Support

1. Call to Order

- Mr. Bayles called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- Mr. Bayles stated for the record that he possessed Mr. and Mrs. Low's proxy for the meeting, therefore quorum was achieved.

2. Adoption of Minutes

- Mr. Bayles called for a motion to adopt the minutes from the previous board meeting. A motion to adopt the minutes was made. With no further discussion, or any objections or abstentions, the minutes were accepted.

3. Budget Discussion

- The budget will encompass an enrollment projection of 300 students in the South Bronx Campus, and 100 students in the Harlem Campus.
- These estimates derive from averages since COVID; currently, the South Bronx Campus is 35 students below the maximum, and the Harlem Campus is 20 students below the maximum.
- There is a reasonable chance of achieving the projected enrollment goals.
- Due to the increased enrollment and an increase of per-pupil rate, the budget for the following year will increase; \$388k higher than the current year's projected budget.
- Expenses would increase \$380k over the current year, the majority of which involves the investment of Lavinia Group's math curriculum rent and increases.
- The new library and other new offices have been established in the new space obtained, which encompasses some of the rent increase. The library will be in full-time use next school year.
- There may be a rent reimbursement to be processed when all the documentation for the building in South Bronx is complete, given that the property will be used as a library for the Academy.
- The South Bronx building houses 10 staff, and there is a board conference room.

- Federal revenue remains the CSP grant, ending at the end of 2022. Any other federal grants were accelerated and completely utilized.
- Total payroll is expected to be approximately \$130k below the current year's budget.
- Health insurance rates will increase 24% beginning in the following year.
- Mr. Bayles called for a motion to approve the budget as previously circulated and discussed during this session. A motion to approve the budget was made. With no further discussion, or any objections or abstentions, and with two board members' proxy, the motion was granted and the budget was approved.

4. Committee Reports

Academic Committee

- There will be a meeting with Julliard in upcoming days.
- The cost of the joint program with Julliard is included in the approved budget.
- After a meeting with SUNY, one of their representatives expressed an opinion that the relationship with Lavinia Group would not be a long-term proposition.
 - This is also reflected in the budget allocated to work with Lavinia Group, tapering as time goes by, because the Academy will rely less on their academic material with time.
- The SUNY renewal assessment visit for the South Bronx Campus has been scheduled for 29-30 November, at the end of their observation schedule. This does not allow a proper response from SUNY on any feedback they may have before the end of the year.
 - The feedback already provided after the Harlem Campus visit is expected to be passed onto the South Bronx Campus, and SUNY expects to see any recommended implementations from the first campus on the visit to the

second campus.

- The notes, comments, and recommendations provided by SUNY during their visit will be summarized and provided to the board, so that all members are able to analyze the data and improve the Academy accordingly.

- As part of their consultancy, Lavinia Group are already helping in going through MAP testing and other data. Teachers are also educated on how to internalize the data by themselves and provide

- feedback to the school leadership.

- As discussed in the previous board meeting, the leadership discussed the effects of the school shootings in Texas on the Academy family.

- Teachers were encouraged to not engage in these conversations with the students, and that the leadership would address the parents. If any students were unaware of the issues, they did not need to hear of these stories from the Academy staff. A parent townhall was subsequently conducted, and approximately 40% of parents and 60% of staff.

- Subjects such as signs of trauma and reactions by children, to include nonverbal behaviors and expressions, were discussed with the parents.

- Parents seemed pleased that a new security company had been contracted, and that security plans were developed.

- The Academy will conduct active-shooter drills.

- Summertime recruiting and hiring was ongoing. The CEO stated that the leadership would like to see the individuals with the students before placing any offers. These hirings should be worked out in upcoming weeks.

Development Committee

- The deadline for Give-or-Get is upcoming.

- Ms. Acey stated that Ms. Evangelista would soon take over the Development Committee. Further, Ms. Acey stated that she would rescind her resignation, soon to be done in writing, in order to continue working with the Academy.

5. Public Comments

- There were no public comments.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.