



Thursday, May 20, 2021 @6:40 p.m.
Board Meeting via Zoom

Meeting ID: 917 5415 9885
Password: E9N@jT

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of April Minutes
3. Vote on School Calendar
4. Fundraising Motion
5. Key Metrics
6. School Report
7. Board Committee Reports
8. Public Comment
9. Adjournment

Trustees Present

Richard Bayles
Gretchen Pusch
Justin Tolliver
Noel Acey
Peter Low
Amanda Low
Tanya Hoffler-Moore
Susan Reid
Jonathan Stearns
Reby Gulcan

Storefront Academy Staff:

Dr. Nicole Garcia, CEO
Ms. Carol Singletary, South Bronx Principal
Ms. Amia Fisher, Dean of Harlem
Mr. Stuart Wolf, Director of Finance
Ms. Maria Ruiz, CEO Executive Assistant
Ms. Elizabeth Ruiz, Harlem Registrar
Ms. Natalia Perez, Director of Communications
Ms. Taleema Chesney, Harlem Principal
Ms. Nidia Evangelista, Director of Operations
Ms. Lorena Rodriguez, South Bronx Registrar
Ms. Yoselyn Fernandez, South Bronx Assistant Principal
Mr. Matthew Tiwary, Director of Technology
Ms. Dignorlyn Poweriet, Director of Development

1. Call to Order

Mr. Bayles called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

2. Adoption of March Minutes

Mr. Bayles moved to adopt the minutes from the previous board meeting. Changes to the minutes were discussed, such changes would be implemented, and the minutes were adopted without further objection.

3. Vote on School Calendar

- Regular school calendar was of 180 school days.
- The proposed Academy calendar contained 190 school days.
- The City eliminated the snow day exception from the calendar, given the current remote learning capabilities.
- The Academy school day would be from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Mr. Bayles moved to adopt the school calendar as included in the board members' packets, and it was adopted without objection.

4. Fundraising Motion

- Mr. Bayles moved to adopt the fundraising motion previously circulated and discussed among the board members. The motion was adopted without objection.

5. Key Metrics

- There had been 20 more applications for the Harlem campus.
- MAP assessments were nearly completed. Academy students fared well against students nation-wide. More complete data would be presented at the next board meeting.

6. School Report

- Students were being challenged and teachers were being provided

the tools necessary to engage students.

- Off-school reading motivation was a priority.
- During the pandemic, the Academy successfully modified its role in supporting students, parents, and teachers with varied equipment, materials, challenges, and assessments.
 - Students had more challenges with math subjects; a coach assesses the class, pace, subject presentation, and follow-up procedures. This allows the Academy to assist teachers and students, improving the learning experience.
 - There were plans to improve marketing for the Academy, such as ads in major newspapers, radio commercials, electronic advertisement on subways, virtual school tour, and open-house events.

7. Committee Reports

Finance Committee

- Approximately 20% of the SL1 grant had been received, and the SL2 application had begun.
 - The PPP Loan forgiveness had been filed, and the process should take approximately 90 days.
 - The T-Mobile contract would soon end, and the CPS contract had been modified; these would allow thousands in monthly savings.
 - In the last Committee meeting, a lower student enrollment expectation was set to allow a more conservative budget, from 360 to 335. Even with this more conservative budget, the Academy still had a surplus.
 - The expense-to-revenue ratio indicated that the margins were going up. Money was being redistributed to investing in learning programs.
 - When the Harlem campus reaches 100 students, it will be self-sufficient.

Academic Committee

- The committee met in order to prepare for an online conversation with SUNY.

Governance Committee

- The Committee still sought new board members.

Real Estate Committee

- All projects were on track.

Development Committee

- The net popcorn sales were of \$870.05, and the profit to the fundraiser was \$217.51.
- Other events were being planned.

CEO Comments

- There were new grants to be given by the State. If granted, other positions and opportunities might be awarded.
- At-risk students and mental health have been of great importance to grant these grants.
- An upcoming meeting with consultants in order to improve the reading program.
- Although there is no specific school library, there were many other ways to provide reading materials to students.
- Students seem to prefer physical books rather than online or digital materials; therefore, the Academy would work on getting more books to students.

8. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.