



Thursday, September 17, 2020 @6:12 p.m.
Board Meeting via Zoom

Meeting ID: 941 1976 8296

Password: .&7cs9

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of August Minutes
3. Committee Reports
4. School Report
5. Safety Plan Report
6. Adjournment

Trustees Present

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

Storefront Academy Staff:

Dr. Nicole Garcia, CEO

Mr. Kelvin Manzanet, Dean of Students

Ms. Carol Singletary, South Bronx Principal

Ms. Yoselyn Fernandez, South Bronx Assistant Principal

Ms. Amia Fisher, Dean of Harlem

Ms. Jennifer Johnson, Director of Student Support

Mr. Matthew Tiwary, Technology Manager

Mr. Stuart Wolf, Director of Finance

Ms. Maria Ruiz, CEO Executive Assistant

Ms. Elizabeth Ruiz, Harlem Registrar

Ms. Lorena Rodriguez, South Bronx Registrar

Ms. Natalia Perez, Director of Communications

Ms. Dignorlyn Poweriet, Director of Development

Ms. Ghanmawati Khelewan, Food Service Manager

Ms. Nidia Evangelista, Director of Operations
Ms. Alicia Szulkin, Speech Pathologist
Ms. Angelica Bernier, Kindergarten Teacher
Ms. Camille Hatch, General Education Teacher 1st grade
Ms. Charlene Budreau, Special Education Teacher
Ms. Cynthia Guerrero, ELL/ENL Teacher
Ms. Darleny Tejada, ELL Teacher
Ms. Evelisse Escobar, Music Teacher
Ms. Julissa Fernandez, General Education Teacher
Ms. Kristin Gervasio, Advisory Council Member
Ms. Letitia Bobb, 3rd Grade General Education Teacher
Ms. Mariah Escobar, Performing Arts Teacher
Ms. Mariannne Smith, General Education Teacher
Ms. Maurisa Hankey, General Education Teacher
Ms. Milly Jimenez, Counselor
Mr. Jesus Rodriguez, Spanish General Education Teacher
Mr. Brian Class Physical Education Teacher
Ms. Gayle Green Williams, Title 1 Teacher
Ms. Charlene Brown, Special Education Teacher
Ms. Mazarine Desresseaux, 3rd Grade General Education Teacher
Ms. Pilar Guichardo, Spanish General Education Teacher
Ms. Gloria Hernandez, 3rd Grade General Education Teacher
Ms. Shari Morris, 4th Grade General Education Teacher
Ms. Paola Escobosa, Student Support
Ms. Jenae Saunders, 5th Grade General Education
Ms. Isis Roman, Kindergarten Co-Teacher
Ms. Nicole Sparrow, Instructional Coach
Ms. Phelina Robinson, Counselor
Ms. Sharae Pierret, General Education Teacher
Mr. Timothy Brown, Maintenance Manager
Ms. Tiana Guzman, General Education Teacher
Ms. Yesenia Martinez, Kindergarten Grade Teacher

1. Call to Order

Mr. Bayles called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

2. Adoption of August Minutes

Mr. Bayles moved to adopt the minutes from the previous meeting. All members agreed, and the minutes from the previous meeting were adopted without objection.

3. Board Committee Reports

Finance Committee

- The institution's enrollment and operating costs were in an optimal status, due in part to the increase in student enrollment.
- Mr. Tolliver stated that the Institution had positive net assets at the time.
- Mr. Wolf stated that the Institution had a healthy budget due to the increase in revenue, although payroll also increased.
- The process for the ESSER Grant will be completed under the CARES Act, totaling approximately \$211K between both schools.
- The South Bronx institution was able to apply for Title III funding, totaling \$31K.
- The physical school closures eliminated some maintenance expenses as well.

Education Committee:

- Ms. Low stated that the Committee joined the leadership team meeting every second Tuesday monthly.
- There had been an emergency parental meeting to brief the parents on all plans at the time. There was a new video uploaded on the School website that would help parents understand the situation, as well as SUNY can evaluate what the School has accomplished.
- There were issues with obtaining computers until October.

- All students and families would soon receive all necessary learning equipment, to include document cameras.
- STEM programs would be rolled out in the meantime.
- MAP testing had begun, both virtually and in-person. For in-person testing, four students would be in a room with all appropriate safeties while they conduct the test.
- The Value Report Card program was being assessed, since it seemed potentially outdated.
- Dr. Garcia stated that the greet-and-go procedures on both campuses were successful, allowing school personnel to interface with students and their families.
- Enrollment on both campuses was steady, notwithstanding the virtual start. School began on 10 September, and school attendance had been steady.
- The South Bronx Campus currently 346 enrollments, and 80 enrollments in Harlem Campus, both exceeding expectations. There was, and always had been, a waiting list for the Harlem Campus.
- If a student had not attended since class began, affirmative steps were taken to contact the students' families and ascertain their plans.
- 4th Grade was over capacity in the Harlem Campus.

Real Estate Committee:

- Mr. Tolliver reported that the Committee was about to finalize a lease in the following week.
- Mr. Low informed the board that the Committee was scheduled to get back to the 501(c)(3) regarding how to proceed with the Harlem Campus property, since attendance had been a gating item, which was no longer an issue.

4. School Reports

- Dr. Garcia stated that virtual education began on 10 September.
- MAP testing had begun in order to develop the year's baseline data.
- Some families were still waiting on learning equipment because of backlogs from the companies.
- STEM and arts programs would involve hands-on projects with the

devices that would be provided in the near future.

- Ms. Chesney emphatically praised the entire team, from already established to new personnel, and their collaboration and efforts.
- The leadership had assessed virtual classroom interactions between students and instructors. Students responded well to the learning approaches.
- Good hiring practices culminated on a great program to support the students.
- There was a new Special Education Director/Coordinator, Mr. Smart, with great experience from many other districts.
- There was a new Dean of Students, Mr. Manzanet.
- There were various other personnel to support both students and teachers, in order to improve the overall services offered to the students while supporting the teachers with all they require to succeed.

5. Safety Plan Report

- Ms. Evangelista stated that the board had previously received the safety plan that was required for approval and submission.
- The safety plan included processes for lockdown and threats to students and staff members, in accordance with State and City guidance. It was a summary of procedures for each individual risk scenario, such as bomb threats, bullying, et cetera. These plans were for internal use only.
- Ms. Pusch moved to approve the Safety Plan. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by all trustees.
- Ms. Evangelista further stated that the Safety Plan would be published via website, as required by law.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.