

## **Bronx Community Charter School**

### **Board Meeting**

**September 28, 2015**

**Attendance:** Ariel Behr, Gil Schmerler, Daniel Osorio, Beverly Falk, Sasha Wilson, Martha Andrews, Cynthia Rogers

**Board Dashboard:** Martha and Sasha will compile a dashboard each month with key information about BxC's performance. The dashboard will include student information such as enrollment, attendance, suspensions, staff profile, curriculum highlights, finances, and assessment summary.

#### **Board Goals:**

- 1. Formalize the way the board oversees the operation and performance of the school via a newly designed dashboard**
- 2. Publicize the school**
- 3. Project specific fundraising**
- 4. Connect the school with opportunities**
- 5. Expanding board membership**

**Technology at BXCC:** Sasha and Martha shared an article on technology and coding. Christy Crawford is quoted in the article. She has a Scholastic blog and has made many connections that have helped bring technology to the BXCC students and staff. The board explored student projects such as robotics, website creation, video games, and mini inventions.

**Assessment:** (see hand-out)

**Facilities:** With the addition of 50 6<sup>th</sup> graders the total enrollment is 410 students. The tenant on the ground floor is not utilizing all of their space, and BXCC is considering leasing it. This would provide an art room and two classrooms. There is a proposed state grant for \$200,00 that will help with the cost.

**Next Meeting:** The next board meeting will be on Friday, October 30. This is the date of the school's Bronx River Museum Share. The entire school will be presenting their studies of the Bronx River and its environs.

Respectfully submitted: Cynthia Rogers

**Bronx Community Charter School**

**Board Meeting**

**Friday, October 30, 2015**

**Attendance:** Ariel Behr, Gil Schmerler, Daniel Osorio, Cynthia Rogers, Sasha Wilson, Martha Andrews, Stephanie Woo

**Minutes:** The minutes from September 2015 were approved.

**Bronx River Museum:** On Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, Bronx Community Charter School was transformed into a school-wide museum focused on their study of the Bronx River. Classrooms were converted into exhibit spaces and all of the students became museum docents educating visitors (family members and Board) on the history and science of the Bronx River.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am

*Respectfully submitted: Cynthia Rogers*

**Bronx Community Charter School  
Board Meeting 11.12.2015  
10am**

**Attended:** Ariel Behr, Gil Schmerler, Daniel Osorio, Cynthia Rogers, Martha Andrews, Noah Doyle, Sasha Wilson

**Minutes**

1. October minutes were approved.
2. Dashboard review- a discussion of suspension practices and policies
3. Updates on the family affected by the car accident at the bus stop last month.
4. Discussion of reading growth in 3rd and 4th grade (see attachment)

## Bronx Community Charter School

### Board Meeting

December 10, 2015

**Attended:** Ariel Behr, Gil Schmerler, Daniel Osorio, Cynthia Rogers, Martha Andrews, Sasha Wilson

**Minutes:** The minutes from the November meeting were approved.

**Updates:**

- Dashboard: See dashboard handout.
- Finance Report: Per pupil funding is lower due to students in the hospital after the September car accident. BxCC just got a \$200,000 grant from the state for the facility renovation.

**Assessment:** See handout. BxCC is continuing to work with Achievement Net. Teachers spent two days working with Martha, the coaches, and a data consultant from Achievement Net to look closely at tests, data, and make plans. Martha will be observing some of the plans in action. Every student gets small group instruction 3 times a week.

**Co-Director Evaluation:** See handout. Co-Directors' response includes:

- Clarification of classroom visits
- Earlier feedback for new teachers
- Including intervention teachers and art teachers in emails to classroom teachers
- Having more people available to respond when staff members need help (this includes adding Dean of Students (Antoinette) to the student support team, that is headed by Director of Student Support (Jeannine))
- More training for classroom management
- Support for working with the most exceptional students, and support for the exceptional students themselves

**Board Goals (update):** Gil has a group of Swedish educators he would like to bring to BxCC

**Renovation:** BxCC has received a state grant of \$200,000. Approximately \$450,000 is the full cost of the renovation. BxC is moving to finalize plans on the new space by the end of December.

**Next meeting:** Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00.

*Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Rogers*

**Bronx Community Charter School**

**Board Meeting**

**January 14, 2016**

**Attended:** Ariel Behr, Gil Schmerler, Stephanie Woo, Noah Doyle, Beverly Falk, Martha Andrews, Sasha Wilson

**Minutes:** The minutes from the December meeting were approved.

**Dashboard:** See Dashboard handout.

**Facility Update:** Pro Bono Lawyers through Lawyers Alliance are representing BxC in lease negotiations with the landlord. Our Owner's Representative (Chris MacAnich) and Architect (Kimberly Murphy) have been working to help us budget and plan for the expansion. The Board voted to approve signing the lease for the new space.

**Budget Report:** See Budget to Actual Report handout.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00.

*Respectfully submitted by Ariel Behr*

## Bronx Community Charter School

### Board Meeting

February 23, 2016

**Attending:** Ariel Behr, Daniel Osorio, Stephanie Woo, Gil Schmerler, Cynthia Rogers, Martha Andrews

**Minutes:** The minutes from the January meeting were approved.

**Dashboard:** (see Dashboard handout) A question was raised on the progress with the UFT regarding teacher evaluations. The UFT has had inclusive conversations with staff on the current system. The plan is for the Union and the school to work together to create an evaluation system. As this will take time to define, BXCC is going with what was agreed in the last contract with teachers.

The next Board meeting will focus on the school's budget and plans for the new space on the first floor.

**Assessment:** (see handout) There are concerns about the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and a new system of departmentalization was established as of 2/22. Two teachers are responsible for social studies and math, and two teachers are responsible for writing and a math block. This gives both 5<sup>th</sup> grade groups consistency in curriculum and classroom management. Students are responding well to the changes. There is discussion to continue with future 5<sup>th</sup> grades.

ELA-ANet results show improvement since the November statistics. There will be a new round of ANet assessments in March. The State tests are in April.

**Mid-year Survey:** (see handout) The graph shows a large increase in staff that agree that the Co-Directors maintain a supportive culture at BXCC. The Board raised questions regarding students who previously struggled, and would like to know their current status.

**Other:** Gil Schmerler reported that two BXCC teachers joined the Progressive Leaders Cohort at Bank Street College.

**Next Meeting:** 10:00 am, Thursday, March 17, 2016, at the school.

*Respectfully submitted: Cynthia Rogers*

## **Bronx Community Charter School**

### **Board Meeting**

**March 24, 2016**

**Attending:** Ariel Behr, Gil Schmerler, Daniel Osorio, Beverly Falk, Cynthia Rogers, Sasha Wilson, Martha Andrews

**Minutes:** The minutes from the February meeting were approved.

**Dashboard:** (see Dashboard handout) Enrollment was raised from 25 to 26 in the K-2 grade in order to accommodate the new salary scale in the BxC's contract with the UFT. Antoinette and Jeannine are researching restorative discipline and how it can work at BxC. There is a new teacher with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, replacing the teacher who left last month. She is a former student teacher at BxC and is fitting in well with the current 5<sup>th</sup> grade team. Two 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls wrote to Google about teaching BXC students about sustainability through a virtual field trip. Google, NY1, and Subaru came to BXC and filmed BXC students experiencing a custom made expedition using Google Glass.

**Finance Report:** (see handout)

**Assessment:** (see handout) ANet results show BxC students ahead of the other schools in our network on the math and ELA assessments. The Board looked at samples from the math and ELA tests.

**Facility Update:** BxC is close to signing the lease for the new space on the first floor. It is not certain whether the space will be ready for fall 2016.

**Presentation:** The Board got to see a new video that highlights the school.

**Other:** Martha Andrews participated in a panel at Bank Street College titled "Supervising Constructively"

**Next Meeting:** April 10, 2016, at 10:00 am.



**Bronx Community Charter School**

**Board Meeting**

**April 4, 2016**

**Attended:** Ariel Behr, Cynthia Rogers, Daniel Osorio, Gil Schmerler, Stephanie Woo, Sasha Wilson, Martha Andrews

The Board discussed submitting a request for a non-material revision to our Charter Agreement, to include a lottery preference for children of staff members of the school. The Board voted and unanimously approved the proposal.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday April 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.

*Respectfully submitted by Sasha Wilson*

**Bronx Community Charter School**

**Board Meeting**

**April 10, 2016**

**Attending:** Ariel Behr, Gil Schmerler, Daniel Osorio, Noah Doyle, Beverly Falk, Sasha Wilson, Martha Andrews

**Minutes:** The minutes from the March meeting were approved.

**Dashboard:** (see Dashboard handout) We discussed the admissions lottery. We also discussed curriculum work and the balance of test readiness and engaging content.

**Assessment:** (see handout) We discussed the handful of students who opted out as well as the implications of longer time for testing.

**Facility Update:** Architects and engineers are ironing out the final plans for the new build out downstairs.

**Next Meeting:** May 12, 2016, at 10:00 am.

**Bronx Community Charter School**

**Board Meeting**

**May 12, 2016**

**Minutes**

**Present: Martha Andrews, Ariel Behr, Gil Shmerler, Daniel Ossorio, Stephanie Woo, Noah Doyle, Sasha Wilson, Beverly Falk**

**April Minutes were unanimously approved.**

**★ Dashboard review:**

- **We discussed projections for where we would be in terms of non-academic charter goals at the year-end. We anticipate meeting all non-academic goals including attendance, retention, and**

**★ Facility Update**

- **We discussed the progress of the first floor construction and the drumming room. We anticipate the drumming room being ready by September and the other two classrooms by December.**

**★ Staffing Update:**

- **We discussed the progress of the personnel committee, including planning for middle school leadership**

**Bronx Community Charter School  
Board Meeting  
June 16, 2016**

**Attending:** Ariel Behr, Gil Schmerler, Daniel Osorio, Noah Doyle, Beverly Falk, Cynthia Rogers, Sasha Wilson, Martha Andrews

**Minutes:** The minutes from the May meeting were approved.

- Dashboard/ Updates: Discussion of middle school enrollment and ways new students will be brought in to BxC culture.
- 2016-17 Budget presentation and approval
- Assessment Exploration: What does a year of report writing look like at BxC? Martha and Sasha presented 3 narrative reports and their accompanying checklists to discuss with board members.