



Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Minutes

9-21-21

9:30 am

Via Zoom

Meeting Agenda

I. Opening items:

a. Attendance and Introductions:

Albania Ruiz, Jeannette de Jesus, Zulema Guajardo, Gil Schmerler, Ariel Behr, Michael Akavan, Beverly Falk, Denise Cancel, Jeannine King, Daniel Osorio, Sasha Wilson, Martha Andrews

b. Approval of minutes from last meeting: June and September minutes will be shared in October.

c. Meeting called to order

II. Required Voting- none

III. Directors' Updates: COVID protocols/ reopening details (Martha/ Sasha) See dashboard.
Items for discussion:

In August, we signed a MOU with the UFT stating that we would follow DOE COVID protocols and safety procedures. Some of this includes:

- Weekly testing of 10% of our students (DOE is paying for this this year)
- Daily health screeners
- Mask wearing mandate
- Physical distancing
- Silent eating
- Vaccine mandate for staff and visitors (in effect on 9/27)
- Building is closed to families
- Following DOE/DOH guidance on quarantine rules

IV. Dashboard Discussion:

Discussion of staffing profile and added staff positions:

New roles:

- Additional school aides (operations, family support, and support/ after school staff)
- Additional counselor for K-5
- Director of Diversity Equity and Inclusion

What other information would you like to see monthly updates on?

V. Education Committee/Directors' Updates: none

VI. Board Development Committee: We would like to continue to gradually grow the board this year by one or two people. The committee will generate a list of what we're looking for so everyone has the opportunity to contribute ideas.

VII. Finance Committee/Directors' Updates: (Sasha): Audit is currently underway. Update will be provided by next month. 401K revisions will be voted on by email.

VIII. Public comments (2-3 minutes each) No members of the public were present.

IX. Executive session

Upcoming meetings:

10/19 at 9:30 Assessment Report



Meeting of the Board of Trustees

10-19-21

9:30 am

Via Zoom

Meeting Minutes:

- I. Opening items:
 - a. Attendance: Gil Schmerler, Michael Akavan, Ariel Behr, Daniel Osorrio, Sasha Wilson, Beverly Falk, Martha Andrews, Denise Cancel, Kemi Williams
 - b. Minutes from September and June were approved
 - c. Meeting called to order
- II. Public comments (2 minutes each): no public comments
- III. Directors' Updates: School updates. (Martha/ Sasha): Discussion of dashboard highlights including enrollment, staffing, and management/discipline
- IV. Directors' Updates: COVID updates(Martha/Sasha): One case of COVID has been documented at school. That child and their close contacts were quarantined. When kids are quarantined they zoom into the classroom.
- VI. Board Development Committee: Suggestions for expansion: Beverly will connect us with someone in pediatrics at Montefiore who might be interested.
- VII. Finance Committee/Directors' Updates: Retirement proposal and vote; Retirement proposal was approved.
- VIII. Executive session: none



Meeting of the Board of Trustees

11/16/21

9:30

Via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

- I. Opening items:
 - a. Attendance: Denise Cancel, Zulema Guajardo , Gil Schmerler , Ariel Behr, Beverly Falk, Yasmin Morales, Michael Akavan, Daniel Osorio , Sasha Wilson, Martha Andrews
 - b. Vote on Minutes: October minutes were voted on and approved
 - c. Meeting called to order
- II. Public comments (2 minutes each): no public comments.
- III. Directors' Updates: School updates and Dashboard Discussion. (Martha/ Sasha): Discussion of a disciplinary action in the middle school. Discussion of fall assessment data from MAP testing.
- IV. Directors' Updates: COVID updates(Martha/Sasha): Shared about the small number of positive cases in the school and the ways we've responded. Proactively thinking towards testing everyone in the school after Thanksgiving break. We applied to be a vaccine site for 5-11 year olds and anticipate that happening on 11/22 or 23.
- V. All School Study Share: Discussion of the all school study. Slide shows were shared
- VI. Board Committee Updates:

Finance update: Discussion of increased spending to support what kids need socially and academically as we return to school in person.
- VIII. Executive session: none



Meeting of the Board of Trustees

12/21/21

9:30

Zoom

Meeting Agenda

- I. Opening items:
 - a. Attendance: Yasmin Morales-Alexander, Denise Cancel, Beverly Falk, Gil Schmerler, Ariel Behr, Daniel Osorio, Michael Akavan, Alby Ruiz, Martha Andrews
 - b. Vote on Minute- November minutes were approved
 - c. Meeting called to order
- II. Public comments (2 minutes each): No members of public
- III. Directors' Updates: COVID updates(Martha): The board discussed the decision to be remote the week before break and addressed plans for how/ when to return in person, what kinds of testing protocols we need in place, and how we will continue to monitor the situation.
- IV. Directors' Updates: School updates and Dashboard Discussion. (Martha): We discussed the departure of the middle school co-director, Jeanette, and the plan moving forward for middle school.
- V. Finance Update- saved for next meeting
- VI. Executive session: None



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees

1/18/22

9:30

Zoom

Meeting Agenda

- I. Opening items:
 - a. Attendance: Gil Schmerler, Yasmin Morales-Alexander, Michael Akavan, Zulema Guajardo, Daniel Osorio, Ariel Behr, Sasha Wilson, Alby Ruiz, Martha Andrews
 - b. Vote on Minutes: December minutes were approved
 - c. Meeting called to order
- II. Public comments (2 minutes each): no members outside the board and school leadership were present.
- III. Directors' Updates: School updates, COVID, and Dashboard Discussion. (Martha/ Alby/ Sasha): Discussion of returning to school, quarantines, and test to stay program.
- IV. Directors' Updates: Assessment updates (Martha/Sasha): Discussion of student growth in 1st-5th and overall picture of student reading levels at this time.
- V. Finance Report (Sasha)
- VI. Executive session: None was held.



Meeting of the Board of Trustees

2/15/22

9:30

Via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

- I. Opening items:
 - a. Attendance: Board Members: Gil Schmerler, Denise Cancel, Ariel Behr, Beverly Falk, Michael Akavan, Yasmin Morales; School Leadership: Albania Ruiz, Jeannine King, Sasha Wilson, Kemi Williams, Martha Andrews; visitors: Tynesha Pringle (UFT representative)
 - b. Vote on Minutes: January minutes were approved.
 - c. Meeting called to order
- II. Public comments (2 minutes each): none
- III. Directors' Updates: School updates and Dashboard Discussion. (Martha/ Sasha/ Alby): Discussion of current discipline concerns, test readiness planning, looking ahead to 12:1 classroom in 2022-23.
- IV. Directors' Updates: COVID updates (Martha): Following DOH shifts and guidance closely; definitely have passed peak of the omicron surge and continue to monitor.
- V. Presentation from Kemi Williams: Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- VI. Finance Report (Sasha)



Meeting of the Board of Trustees

3/15/22

9:30

Via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

- I. Opening items:
 - a. Attendance: Ariel Behr, Gil Schmerler, Michael Akavan, Denise Cancel, Daniel Osorio, Alby Ruiz, Sasha Wilson, Martha Andrews, (Beverly Falk, Zulema Guajardo)
 - b. Vote on Minutes: Last month's minutes were approved.
 - c. Meeting called to order
- II. Public comments (2 minutes each): no visitors
- III. Directors' Updates: School updates and Dashboard Discussion. (Martha/ Sasha/ Alby): Reports and conferences coming up this week. Lottery updates for next year's enrollment. Staffing for coming school year. Middle school updates.
- IV. Directors' Updates: COVID updates (Martha): Masks optional discussions.
- V. Finance Report (Sasha):



Meeting of the Board of Trustees

4/12/22

9:30

Via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

- I. Opening items:
 - a. Attendance: Gil Schmerler, Ariel Behr, Beverly Falk, Mike Akavan, Yasmin Morales, Alby Ruiz, Martha Andrews, Sasha Wilson
 - b. Vote on Minutes: Minutes from last meeting approved
 - c. Meeting called to order
- II. Public comments (2 minutes each): no members of the public were present
- III. Directors' Updates: School updates and Dashboard Discussion. (Martha/ Sasha/ Alby): Discussion of staff/teacher evaluations; year end 8th grade events, arts updates- kids were accepted to the Bronx Boroughwide Arts Festival and 3 students were selected to the PS Art exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.
- IV. Directors' Updates: COVID updates (Martha): Discussion of how mask-optional is going.
- V. Finance Report (Sasha)
- VI. Executive session- none held



Meeting of the Board of Trustees

5/17/22

9:30

Via Zoom and at BxC

Meeting Minutes

- I. Opening items:
 - a. Attendance: Zulema Guajardo, Gil Schmerler, Ariel Behr, Mike Akavan, Daniel Osorio, Beverly Falk, Yasmin Morales, Denise Cancel, Sasha Wilson, Alby Ruiz, Martha Andrews
 - b. Vote on Minutes: April minutes were approved.
 - c. Meeting called to order
- II. Public comments (2 minutes each): no public were present
- III. Directors' Updates: School updates and Dashboard Discussion. (Martha/ Sasha/ Alby): MS updates, summer programming, EOY events: Discussion of alumni news and tracking (possibility of engaging with Columbia BS interns to do this). The school has received a grant from Bloomberg to run a summer intensive for 5 weeks- 5 days/week. AM will be intensive academic work and the afternoon will be projects and local trips. EOY events: June 17- 8th grade graduation in person 2:00; 5th grade moving on in person 9:30; June 16- 8th grade zoom ceremony 6:30.
- IV. Directors' Updates: COVID updates (Martha): Discussion of current surge, mitigation measures, and procedures for members of the community who have tested positive.
- V. Finance Report (Sasha): April financial report discussion
- VI. Executive session- none held



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees

6-15-22

9:15 am

Via Zoom

Meeting Agenda

- I. Opening items:
 - a. Attendance: Gil Schmerler, Michael Akavan, Ariel Behr, Daniel Osorrio, Sasha Wilson, Albania Ruiz, Yasmin Morales, Beverly Falk, Martha Andrews
 - b. Approval of minutes from last meeting: May minutes were approved.
 - c. Meeting called to order
- II. Public comments (2 minutes each): No one from outside the board and school leadership was present.
- III. Directors' Updates: Updates on end of school. (Martha/ Sasha)
Co-directors shared about plans for end of year celebrations in K-4, moving on in 5th grade, and graduation for 8th grade.
- IV. Directors' Updates: Looking towards 2022-23 (Martha/Sasha)
Co-Directors shared about progress towards shifting our instructional coaching model, progress on the 12:1:1 classroom, and our anticipated class size for 2022-23.
- V. Education Committee/Directors' Updates: Assessment planning updates (Martha)
We will continue to use MAP assessments at the encouragement of our authorizers and anticipate more reliable results as we will give all assessments in person.
- VI. Finance Committee/Directors' Updates (Sasha)
Sasha reviewed the budget for electronic approval.
- VII. Executive session- none held