

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Brenda Marrero, Chair
Nelson Flores, Ph.D., Vice Chair
Joseph DuCette, Ph.D., Member
Donna Nuccio, Member
Todd Kowalski, Member
Sarah Finkelstein, Member
Caroline Gorman, Member

PARENT REPRESENTATIVES

Dana B. Espinosa, Secretary
Jessika Garcia

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES**

Location: Zoom.us – Meeting ID: 910 9082 7966

Monday, April 20, 2020

Board Members Present: Brenda Marrero Dr. Nelson Flores, Dana Espinosa, Dr. Joseph DuCette, Sarah Finkelstein, Caroline Gorman, Todd Kowalski, Donna Nuccio

Board Members Absent: Jessika Garcia

Quorum Established: Yes

Others Present: Dr. Darcy Russotto, CEO; Robin Eglin, Omnivest; Leigh Ann Kelly, Omnivest; David Shemaria, Assistant Principal; Mercedes Walton-Mason, Assistant Principal; Yolanda Cooper, Principal; Zach Brown, Director of Technology

Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order at 4:33pm.

Public Testimony

No Public Testimony

Board Governance

- MOTION to APPROVE meeting minutes for 2/10/20 by Espinosa, seconded by Finkelstein. Motion passed.
- MOTION to APPROVE special meeting minutes for 4/8/20 by Marrero, seconded by Nuccio. Flores abstains. Motion passed.
- Statement of Financial Interests Forms for the year 2019 due May 1st.

Financials

- *Review of the February and March financials provided by Robin Eglin & Leigh Ann Kelly.* Current Ratio: 1.39; Cash on Hand: 53.52; Debit Ratio: 0.39; Total Margin: 3.76%; Lease Coverage Ratio: 1.59
- Audit & Finance Committee Meetings kicked off with training in January with Omnivest. Upcoming meetings will be held in May to discuss the upcoming year's budget. The annual budget will still be due to the state by June 30th. Omnivest continues to update forecasts.
- Academic Recovery will require a heavy financial investment; suggested to also relook at janitorial and psychological funds to see if they can be redeployed. Omnivest recommends the school to apply for the PPP loan. The school board agrees and would like Omnivest to pursue with the application.
- EMMA submission on target for timely submission.

School Report

- *ACE Report Review* – The report was released in April. The report is the annual evaluation provided by the charter school office when a charter school is not going through the renewal process.
 - Our economically disadvantaged students, as well as our English & Special Education learners, were ranked higher in both district and charter school averages. Despite this fact, we were only 1pt lower in academic rating.
 - There is still an issue with EL students not being tested after 30 days, especially if they are in a grade other than Kindergarten. Issues at hand: Lack of notification between registration/enrollment process to classroom placement; lack of teacher input regarding student struggling with English language
 - Shortage of certified Special Education teachers keeps us in non-compliance.
 - The water testing has been resolved. Filters were installed and tested. Drinking water stations tested clear. Sinks tested clear.
 - Financial health report was reviewed by Leigh Ann Kelly of Omnivest.
 - Board members discussed effectiveness of out-of-school suspensions and other more productive and engaging alternatives. Flores discussed the importance of having meaningful goals and objectives in providing consequences, such as an in-house suspension and Espinosa suggested the school research restorative justice programs to reduce suspensions. School administration discussed their challenges with personnel and space to offer in-house suspensions as well as navigating parents that are counterproductive in addressing misconduct – adding that most suspensions are from students that are repeat offenders or stem from students engaging in fights.
- *Review of Benchmark Data* – Cooper provided an overview of student academic progress from previous benchmarks given to students. Explanation of data and how 2/3 of students go on to perform proficient or better.

Action Items

- MOTION to APPROVE *New hire, Jose Nunez & Keishon Norton*, by DuCette and seconded by Gorman. Motion passed.
- MOTION to APPROVE *Personnel Salaries* by DuCette and seconded by Flores. Motion passed.
- MOTION to APPROVE *Employee Termination* by Gorman and seconded by Finkelstein. Motion passed.

There being no further business to come before the board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 6:19pm.

Minutes Recorded by: Lisandra Kelly