

**New Dawn Charter High School  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
Minutes**

**Place:** New Dawn Charter High School  
242 Hoyt Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11217

**Date:** January 26, 2016

**Time:** 3:00pm

**Board Members Present:** Leslie Winter, Phillip Weitzman

**Board Members on Skype:** George Crowley, Esosa Ogbana, Ron Tabano

**Board Members Absent:** Samir Souidi

**Staff Members Present:** Sara Asmussen, Michelle D. Millán

**I. Executive Session**

Meeting began in Executive Session at 3:04 pm.

- a. Building Update
- b. Student Reapplication

Executive Session ended. Meeting came to order at 3:18 pm. A quorum was present.

**II. Resolution: Minutes from December 1, 2015 meeting**

Dr. Asmussen requested clarification of when the option expires. Mr. Tabano stated that it is 2 years, 9 months from the point of December 1<sup>st</sup>, which would be September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Motion:** Mr. Crowley motioned to accept the minutes as written.

**Seconded:** Mr. Winter seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Unanimous.

**III. Resolution: Minutes from January 12, 2016 meeting**

Dr. Weitzman clarified the question that he asked regarding the selling of air rights. The minutes states, is there anything in the contract that stops the seller from selling air rights after the building is sold. Dr. Weitzman corrected that the question was **before** the building is sold.

Mr. Crowley changed the adjournment date.

**Motion:** Dr. Weitzman motioned to accept the corrected minutes.

**Second:** Mr. Winter seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Unanimous.

#### **IV. School Updates**

Dr. Asmussen stated that staff was still snowed out in Arizona, following the SAM conference. These staff included Lisa DiGaudio, Tameka Jackson, Dumar Paden, Zach Flory and Sandy Spaziani and they are still not back. The school was down about 10 staff between those who were stranded and those who had the flu.

Regents proceeded today without any problems. 40 students took the Global History, and ELA is currently in progress.

NDCHS is getting ready for next week; the school is being visited by Senior Deputy Commissioner Jhone Ebert. She is the commissioner of educational policy. She is coming on Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Dr. Weitzman asked if the school ever received a report from the Site Visit. Dr. Asmussen said they had not and she e-mailed them over the weekend to ask when it was going to be resolved.

#### **V. Financial Report**

Mr. Crowley requested some documents. Dr. Asmussen will get with Digant Bahl (not a Board member) after the Regents are over to get the information. Mr. Bahl also stated that he has a couple of examples of financial dashboards that Mr. Souidi requested.

Dr. Weitzman questioned the December 2015 and 2016 comparison; he stated that there is a charge for \$10,300 for legal fees due to the lawsuit with NLRB. Dr. Asmussen stated that that was the lawyer's fees for the lawsuit with staff. Dr. Weitzman asked if there are any ongoing legal services. Dr. Asmussen stated that this case is over.

#### **VI. Clarifying Retirement Plan**

Mr. Tabano asked Dr. Asmussen to clarify the retirement plan. Dr. Asmussen understood that an employee has to contribute in order for them to receive a match from the school. The minutes states that for the 2015-2016 year, the school match contribution match would be 3%.

Mr. Crowley stated that the Board would agree to an amount that would be split up between staff, whether or not they contribute. However, this is not what the minutes say.

Mr. Tabano suggested that Mutual of America come in and talk to staff and give them a refresher.

### **Clarifying Staff Increases**

The Board has decided to do away with the term COLA and replace it with Board Discretion.

HEDI Score: The Danielson observation rubric, where you can get up to 60 points and then 40 points on 2 tests (1: a teacher developed classroom test, 2: Scantron (reading and math), 3: Regent's results) then you compare pre and posts tests. If students' outcomes add up to 75 points or more, the teacher gets an increase.

### **VII. New Business**

Morgan Stanley is coming in next month to talk to staff.

Mr. Tabano requested a motion to accept the lease and to the Board is giving Dr. Asmussen permission to sign the lease and proceed.

**Motion:** Mr. Tabano moved to accept the lease.

**Second:** Mr. Crowley seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Unanimous.

### **VIII. Adjournment**

**Motion:** Dr. Weitzman moved to adjourn the meeting.

**Second:** Mr. Winter seconded the meeting.

**Vote:** Unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on February 23, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at New Dawn Charter High School.