



## Minutes

The American Dream Charter School  
Board Meeting  
April 20, 2017 @ 6:00 PM  
at 510 E 141st St. New York, NY 10454

**Board Members Present:** R. Levine, D. Vargas (tele-conference), R. Espinal, A. Cabrera, L. Rojas, Z. Martinez  
**Guests:** M. Melkonian, N. Gallagher

### I. OPENING ITEMS

- A. Call the Meeting to Order at - 6:03pm L. Rojas
  - 1. Seconded by Z. Martinez
- B. Approve Minutes A Cabrera motioned,
  - 1. R. Espinal seconded
    - a) Unanimously approved

### II. EXECUTIVE

- C. Increased pay scale for teachers- M. Melkonian
  - 1. Teacher expectation/Competitive offers to retain and attract teachers. DOE has another increase scheduled in SY1819. Board needs to review total costs of payroll before approving a % + DOE schedule.
    - a) Alternative is longevity bonus (flat stipend)
    - b) Decision needs to be made soon. Contracts need to be distributed.
    - c) Proposed uncoupling of matching DOE salary. In lieu of this a steady percentage increase annually.
    - d) Board would like to see projections of total payroll with a couple of options over the next 2-3 years.
- D. 5yr budget - M. Melkonian/N. Gallagher
  - 1. Staff have left that were hired at the beginning of the year
  - 2. SY1819 & SY 2122 expenses appear to exceed
    - a) These budgets are based on low enrollment numbers
      - (1) Nick will get additional clarification about the 5 year budget and get back to the Board.
    - b) Question arose about Melissa remaining principal of entire 6-12 school.
      - (1) Scale of ADS may be manageable; however, 2 locations creates an issue.
      - (2) Melissa has other responsibilities that require there be additional school leadership on campus for 100% instruction support
- E. Long-term facilities - M. Melkonian
  - 1. Melissa would like to proceed with High Mark



- a) Proposed connecting facilities with Mexican consulate, possibility to make the facility more than just the school (community center-ish). This may also get mexican investors interested.
- F. NY budget and it's impact on ADS- N. Gallagher
  - 1. The new formula means a loss of \$50 million for the charter sector next year, and a cumulative loss of \$1.7 billion by 2025-26,
  - 2. charter funding raised by only 2.9 percent instead of linking new funding to the 9.4 percent hike conventional public schools got last school year.
- G. 423 E.138th entering lease negotiations - M. Melkonian

### **III. OPERATIONS**

- H. Staffing Update - N. Gallagher
  - 1. Full Time Instructional Staff: 26 (not including - Speech Therapist)
  - 2. Full Time School Support: 2 ( 1 social work intern)
  - 3. Full Time Operations Staff: 5
  - 4. Full Time School Leadership staff: 3
    - a) Total of 36 Full time Staff
- I. Student Enrollment- N. Gallagher
  - 1. 237

### **IV. FINANCE**

- J. Account balances - N. Gallagher
  - 1. checking, savings and escrow account balances were reviewed

### **V. CLOSING ITEMS**

- K. Motion to adjourn Meeting - Z. martinez
  - a) Seconded - L. Rojas.
    - (1) meeting adjourned at 7:08
    - (2) unanimously approved