

Minutes

The American Dream Charter School

Board Meeting

Monday Jan 12, 2015 @ 6:00 PM

Board Members Present

Damian Vargas, Luz Maria Rojas, Richard Levine (remote), Zuleika Martinez

Guests Present

Melissa Melkonian, Nicholas Gallagher, Roselin Espinal, Sandra Garcia

I. Opening Items

Call the Meeting to Order

Luz Maria Rojas called a meeting of the board of trustees of The American Dream Charter School to order on Monday Jan 12, 2015 @ 6:02 PM.

Approve Minutes

L. Rojas made a motion to approve minutes from the Board Meeting on 12-16-14.

Damian Vargas seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

II. Student Recruitment

Plan for 15-16 SY

We have a broad approach prepared. That includes open houses, marketing, on foot-outreach. Roles for current parents to assist with recruiting. There is a written plan that can be distributed if anyone would like to see it and contribute.

Board Involvement in Student Recruitment

We discussed this. If there are any ideas, Board Members were email Luz and Melissa.

III. Executive

Sandra Garcia - Introduction and Questions

Graduate of Satellite Academy. She is a news clerk (occasional writer/occasional reporter). She is a 1st generation and an ELL. It's important to her that students like her get the same opportunities she's had. She has no issue with being involved. She works night and already has ideas to bring to the table about events in the Bronx and recruiting ideas. Professional ability to bring more attention to the school. She discussed basic media coverage. She mentioned connecting with local politicians. In media there are a lot of ways to make awareness happen. PR Social Media - she created an app for the unity convention for promoting their seminars through. Follow local politicians and they might follow you back.

Roselin Espinal - Introduction and Questions

Roselin is in the finance industry. She works for a latin american group. She was born in the Dominican Republic. She believes the needs are basically the same from when she was going through the NYC school system. Her experience wasn't easy so she identifies with the needs of our student population. Having worked for large financial corporation there is a lot of ways that her company itself could get involved. She has a network of people that she knows that could be an asset. She has a finance background and could offer guidance and in the arena.

Vote to accept Sandra as a ADS Board Meeting.

L. Rojas made a motion to American Dream Charter School Board of Trustees, having conducted a thorough background check via a fingerprint scan as required and having discovered no State or federal criminal history, or having provided such history to SED if found, has voted to select Sandra Garcia as a final candidate to its Board

of Trustees, with a term expiring in one to three years, pending approval by SED. The resolution approving Sandra Garcia is formally adopted upon SED's approval.

Damian Vargas seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Voted to Accept Roselin Espinal to join ADS Board

L. Rojas made a motion to American Dream Charter School Board of Trustees, having conducted a thorough background check via a fingerprint scan as required and having discovered no State or federal criminal history, or having provided such history to SED if found, has voted to select Roselin Espinal as a final candidate to its Board of Trustees, with a term expiring in one to three years, pending approval by SED. The resolution approving Roselin Espinal is formally adopted upon SED's approval.

Damian Vargas seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Principal's Report

Jon Linchitz transition to only Art and a Part-Time Schedule

Jon has moved to teach only visual arts. He is no longer teaching P.E. P.E. is being handled by Melissa Melkonian. We are actively looking to fill the P.E. role. The expectation is that there is going to be growth. Suggestion for Jon to journal about how he feels in the classroom, sometimes there are questions, also to give the mentor an idea of what's going on in the classroom. The other piece of this is whether we'll keep visual arts next year. Rick may have a suggestion to connect with a musician. Performance might be a more appropriate form of expression for this age. We should try it. It's something they can go home and do. We could put on recitals. Culturally its more about the music and the dancing.

V. Finances

March and May Fundraising Events - Board Involvement

Venues won't want to do Friday, Saturday. We could do a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. People don't want to go to the Bronx. Damian has a list of places that would be willing to host us. Bringing in the people is the focus. If we get a video we can do Indigogo. What perks can we offer. Constant knocking on that door. Go-pro person cam from a kid.

VI. Closing Items

Adjourn Meeting

L. Rojas made a motion to motion to adjourn the meeting.

Damian Vargas seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 07:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicholas Gallagher