

Minutes

The American Dream Charter School

Board Meeting

Thursday Sep 18, 2014 @ 5:00 PM at 510 E. 141st Street, 4FL, Bronx, NY 10454

Board Members Present

Damian Vargas, Luz Maria Rojas, Richard Levine

Board Members Absent

Angelo Cabrera, Michael Weippert

Guests Present

Nicholas Gallagher, Sarah Fuentes

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 Thursday Sep 18, 2014 @ 5:22 PM at 510 E. 141st Street, 4FL, Bronx, NY 10454.

Approve Minutes

L. Rojas made a motion to approve minutes from the Board Meeting on 08-26-14.

Michael Weippert seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion. approve minutes from last board meeting - motion passed.

II. Academic Excellence

Start of School Year

Parents Pleased. Children happy. Kids arriving early. Good communication with parents. Systems in place and functioning.

Teacher Certification

1 teacher out of 7 is out of compliance. As a precaution, we've posted a job announcement for the Art position in case our Art teacher does not pass the certification exam in October.

III. Community Outreach

Student Enrollment

71 students. 71% ELL. High bilingual population. We're using the vanguard mailing service. CBO's, St. Ann. Ste. Jeromes, Local Street Fair. Hispanic Heritage month. Calendar of events and Rubin Diaz Jr.

IV. Executive

Leave Replacement

Luz is available to come in next Thursday. Sarah Fuentes is filling in for Melissa while she's on maternity leave. Background Checks for Board Members - Check if they've been done (Nick) and check if they can be fingerprinted at the Charter Center.

Board Members @ ADS

We need another Educator on the Board, in addition to a variety of other expertise. No potential candidates at the moment. Anything that's collected with be distributed among board members.

V. Finance

Audit Findings

Digant has not sent Joe Blatt items necessary to complete the final audit report.

CSP Year-to-Date

Funds for phase one have been expended. Continuation application has been submitted. Determine ETA of funds.

Committee Meetings

The finance committee meeting has been scheduled directly after the regular board meetings.

VI. Governance

Board Recruitment

Discussed. This is an ongoing effort.

VII. Principal's Report

Student Assessment

Math diagnostic (my achievement first network) - 51% school average, 14%. ELA assessment - 59% are testing at 5th grade or lower. Of 59%, 18% were lower than 4th grade (4 children below 2nd grade). Assessing students in Spanish as well (who are spanish speakers) some of them are at 8th grade level and other are at kindergarten. We have a handful of children that are at both at grade level in spanish and english. Assessments should be done by Wednesday of next week.

Student Demographics

A lot of student from Mexico, Dominican, Puerto Rican, and some South American students.

ADS Connect

HR intranet for staff.

Helen Keller Vision Screening

56% of students will be getting glasses.

Student Retreat

Student Retreat was great. Sarah showed a few pics and videos.

VIII. Closing Items

Adjourn Meeting

L. Rojas made a motion to adjourn meeting.

Michael Weippert 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 06:11 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicholas Gallagher