

Minutes

The American Dream Charter School Board Meeting

Monday September 21, 2015 @ 6:00 PM
at 510 E 141st St New York, New York 10454

I. Opening Items

Call the Meeting to Order - L. Rojas

At 6:09pm

Rick, Luz, Melissa, Roselin (phone), Nick, Zuleika,

Approve Minutes - L. Rojas

II. Finances

Account Balances – Nick Gallagher

Escrow – 25,000

III. Student Enrollment

Update on new students enrollment – Nick Gallagher

- 82 6th graders
- 82 7th graders
- 164 total
- We do have a waitlist
- Melissa is going to share a file that contains all of our student data.
 - We currently have 43% Ells and former Ells
 - Current Ell population is 26%
 - SpEd 23%
- Provide a more in depth description of our student population
 - SpEd – What kind of IEPs?

IV. Academic Excellence

Alpine Achievement – Melissa Melkonian

- A data warehouse that we're working with to "crunch" our numbers and provide a dashboard of our school/students that will help us identify trends, recalibrate/fine-tune curriculum.

- The cost of this process is about 3K
- Attendance data
- NYSESLAT
 - Gains in language
 - What do we need to do to say (e.g. raise a low 3 to a high 3, high 2 to low 3)
 - How are we measuring outcomes from project work

V. Executive

Update on After School Program – Melissa Melkonian

- We cannot reallocate per pupil funds to an afterschool program. We have to raise our own \$.

Audit – Nick Gallagher

- 3 Auditors will be at school on Wednesday and Friday of this week. They'll be spot checking our financial records as well as things like student and employee files. Digant, Gagan and another associate will be present to assist.

Update Co-Location – Melissa Melkonian & Nick Gallagher

Vote Engaging Susan Briggs – Melissa Melkonian

- motion to vote on engaging Susan Briggs to continue the dialog

High School Expansion Amendment – Parents are pressing Melissa for a high school. Melissa called Vicki Smith – new rfp for SED to open a Charter School. First response is not positive because of the age of the school. We would lose our founding classes (this would be a loss). Amendment is due December 15th. The choices are – new rfp with extra 750k or an amendment to the current charter. This also relates to our work with Susan Briggs.

- What would it mean to amend the charter versus an entirely new Charter
- NEXT BOARD MEETING

Organizational Structure – Current Leadership is not enough to adequately direct the school. The current Director of Curriculum is stepping down. Prepping for shared leadership in the future.

VI. Governance

Board Involvement - Nick Gallagher

- Immigration Reform Parent Workshop, Publicity, Fundraising, Finance Committee Meeting

- Community Outreach (Volunteering at PTC, Last Year's Immigration Reform Parent Workshop), Publicity, Other ideas from the board
 - DISCUSSION ABOUT THIS DURING OCTOBER BOARD MEETING
- Board Interested in coming in an doing PD (Luz/Zuleika/Rick)

Board Professional Development for SY 15-16 – Nick Gallagher or MM

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VII. Closing Items

Adjourn Meeting - L. Rojas

Luz motioned to adjourn meeting

Roselin Seconded the meeting at 7:09