



Minutes

The American Dream Charter School
Board Meeting
Monday, October 23, 2017 @ 6PM
at 423 E 138th St. New York, NY 10454

Board Members Present: R. Espinal, Z. martinez, L. Rojas, A. Cabrera

Guests: N. Gallagher

I. OPENING ITEMS

- A. Call the Meeting to Order - L. Rojas
 - 1. Meeting called to order at 7:00pm
 - a) Seconded - Z. Martinez
- B. Approve Minutes
 - 1. Motion to approve - L. Rojas
 - a) Seconded - Z. Martinez

II. GOVERNANCE

- C. Highmark Interviews - N Gallagher
 - 1. Questions:
 - a) Describe enrollment parameters dictated by state and locally - NG
 - b) Describe relationship with authorizer - NG
 - c) Describe school culture - MM
 - d) Demographics of students - MM
 - (1) HighMark requested this info
 - e) How are we doing what we're doing - MM
 - (1) Co-teach model
 - (2) Most of our staff are bilingual
 - (3) Advisory - meeting social/emotional needs & embedding literacy
 - (4) How community, demographics, reflect the south bronx.
 - f) Challenge is splitting leadership time for Melissa - MM
 - g) Staff retention - MM
 - (1) Every year we're hiring a whole new set of teacher
 - (2) Attrition is about 10 percent
 - 2. Questions for the board
 - a) Thinking about leadership - LMR
 - b) Different challenges with various elements of school expansion - LMR
 - c) Keeping numbers healthy - RE
 - d) Recruiting more board members LMR
 - 3. Budget questions
 - a) Sustainability RE
 - b) Student to teacher ratio RE
 - 4. Location of the property we'll be developing



5. Delivery of property is later that opening of school
6. ADS's questions
 - a) Any trepidations about ADS on HighMark's end?
 - (1) No
 - (a) Endorsed from Marilyn
7. Board Recruitment - L. Rojas
 - a) What expertise is our board composed of? - L. Rojas
 - (1) What other expertise does our current board have?
 - b) What materials would be helpful to have for a new board member
 - (1) An index of academic terms
 - (2) A booklets including: mission statement, reports, and other information about the school population.
 - (3) How to develop interest that could lead to giving
 - c) Recruiting Matrix
 - (1) What kind of expertise do we need?
 - (a) E.g. immigration lawyer
 - (b) Real estate attorney
 - (c) Technology

III. OPERATIONS

- D. Staffing Update - N. Gallagher
 1. Full-time, Part-Time, Instructional, Administrative and Leadership. Staffing for both campuses was reviewed
- E. Enrollment - N. Gallagher
 1. Enrollment and waitlist counts were reviewed for 6th, 7th, 8th & 9th grades.

IV. FINANCE

- F. Audit Report Draft - N. Gallagher
 1. Schedule a call with Digant 10 Minutes for Board conversation with
 - a) 4pm Wed.
- G. All account balances were reviewed- N. Gallagher

V. Governance & Closing Items

- H. Annual Report - M. Melkonian
 1. Reviewed metrics for meeting/not meeting goals for annual report.
 - a) Total report is due next week
- I. Motion to adjourn Meeting- L. Rojas,
 1. Seconded - Z Martinez
 - a) Meeting adjourned at 7:52pm