

Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, August 11, 2015
50 East 168th Street, Bronx, NY 10452

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Resolution to Approve Minutes from July 14, 2015**
- III. Gift from the Garden of Dreams Foundation**
- IV. Facilities Discussion**
- V. Principal's Updates**
- VI. Resolution to Approve Employer Contribution for Non-TRS Employees**
- VII. Resolution to Approve a Health Insurance Plan for Full-Time Employees**
- VIII. New Business**
- IX. Adjournment:**

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, September 8, 5:00 pm at SBECA (423 East. 138th Street)**

**Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, August 11, 2015
WHEDco | 50 East 168th Street, Bronx, NY 10452**

Trustees Present: Nancy Biberman, Lori Chemla, Andrea Cohen, Felicia Franklin, and Davon Russell

Trustees Absent: Andy Arons, Valerie Capers, and Eric Nadelstern

Other Attendees: Ric Campbell, SBECACS; Cat Eugenio, SBECACS; Meredith Leverich, WHEDco

Call to Order

Davon Russell called the meeting to order at 4:27pm.

Resolution to Approve Meeting Minutes

The Board made a motion and unanimously approved the minutes from the July 14th, 2015 Board of Trustees meeting.

Executive Director's Updates

Pre-Opening Visit

Ric Campbell reported that the NYSED Pre-Opening Visit has been scheduled for Monday, August 17th, 2015, and would include a walk-through of the school facilities, as well as a review of the school's policies. He reported that the Certificate of Occupancy (CO) had expired on August 12th, but that the landlord was working to secure a renewed CO in time for the school to open on August 31st, 2015, as planned.

Furniture

Mr. Campbell also stated that 35% of the school's furniture had been delivered and assembled and that the remainder would be delivered within the next week or two.

Parent Meetings

Mr. Campbell and Cat Eugenio reported that the school had completed the fourth and final night of pre-opening parent meetings, which divided the parent community into four groups to facilitate a more intimate conversation. Mr. Campbell reported that during the meetings, he requested that the parents and the incoming students all commit to doing their part to ensure that all of the children graduate high school and go to college.

School Uniform

Mr. Campbell reported that many parents inquired about and indicated a desire for school uniforms during the Parent Meetings. Mr. Russell reported that he and Mr. Campbell met with a design company that has offered to design the school uniforms pro bono, and would send sketches for review by the end of the week. Mr. Russell added that he would continue to explore ways to manufacture the uniforms at

little or no cost to the school, and that having special uniforms could give students an additional sense of ownership of the school culture. Lori Chemla said that it is important for the uniforms to be practical, meaning that they could be washed easily and many times, and that they would be appropriate for physical education, given that students would not change into gym clothes.

Mr. Campbell said that the plan is for a school uniform to go into effect on October 1st, but that there would be a dress code for the first five weeks of school until a uniform could be selected and purchased.

Gift from Garden of Dreams Foundation

Mr. Russell reported that the MSG Garden of Dreams Foundation, which has been WHEDco's long-time partner, has approved a grant proposal from the school for \$123,000, which will help support the school's music program. The budget for this grant includes musical instruments and other items necessary for a music program. Mr. Campbell said that NYU's music education faculty provided guidance when creating the list of instruments and equipment that a top-notch program would have, and WHEDco's development staff helped create a proposal for the school.

Andrea Cohen inquired about how the instruments would be secured and whether the school's building and general liability insurance would cover any damages, or if additional insurance should be purchased to protect the musical instruments and other equipment. Mr. Campbell said that he would reach out to the school's insurance broker, Austin & Co., to determine if this would be covered under the school's current policy.

Technology

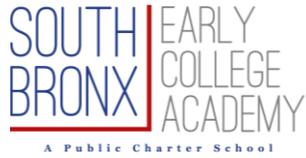
Ms. Chemla inquired about the technology that the school would be using, as part of its computer science curriculum. Mr. Campbell said that each student would have a Chrome Book, ACER 720, which would travel with the students between classes and will be used as needed throughout the day. He said that the computers will be locked up and recharged at the end of each school day in laptop carts. Mr. Campbell added that the faculty would be using Google Classroom, which allows for easy sharing of students' work, information and ideas. Ms. Chemla said that she would reach out to some of her contacts who may be willing to donate additional technology to the school.

Executive Session

The Board met in Executive Session to discuss an Employer Contribution for Non-TRS employees and health insurance packages.

Resolution to Approve Employer Contribution for Non-TRS Employees

After reviewing the budget and a discussion during Executive Session, the Board made a motion and passed a resolution to approve an employer contribution of 10% of employees' salaries for employees not eligible for TRS benefits for the 2015 – 2016 academic year.



The Board agreed to revisit the discussion and the review the budget again before the 2016 – 2017 school year to determine if the contribution rate should remain unchanged based on the school's fiscal health.

Resolution to Approve a Health Insurance Plan for Full-Time Employees

After discussion during the Executive session, the Board made a motion and passed a resolution to approve the enrollment in the Employee Health Insurance Plan offered by Magii, Inc.

Adjournment

The Board made a motion and voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:35.