

**Board of Trustees Meeting  
May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
639-55 St. Ann's Avenue, Bronx, NY 10455**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Resolution to Approve Minutes from April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Board Meeting
- IV. Executive Director's Report
  - A. Lottery Update & Student Enrollment for 2017 – 2018 School Year
  - B. Returning Faculty & New Faculty Recruitment for 2017 – 2018 School Year
  - C. Report on Student Attrition
  - D. Mathematics State Exam Update
  - E. Facilities Update
  - F. NYSED Visit – May 18<sup>th</sup>
- V. Finance Committee Report
- VI. New Business
- VII. Next Meeting – Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017
- VIII. Adjournment

**Reunión de la Junta  
4 de mayo de 2017  
639-55 St. Ann's Avenue, Bronx, NY 10455**

**AGENDA**

- I. Inicio de Sesión
- II. Comentarios Públicos
- III. Moción para aprobar las minutas de la Reunión de la Junta del 6 de abril de 2017
- IV. Informe del Director Ejecutivo
  - A. Lotería y matrícula de estudiantes para el año escolar 2017-2018
  - B. Miembros de la facultad que regresan y reclutamiento de profesores nuevos para el año escolar 2017-2018
  - C. Fuga de estudiantes
  - D. Exámenes estatales de matemáticas
  - E. Planta física
  - F. Visita del Departamento de Educación del Estado de Nueva York – 18 de mayo
- V. Informe del Comité de Finanzas
- VI. Asuntos Nuevos
- VII. Próxima Reunión – jueves, 1 de junio de 2017
- VIII. Cierre de Sesión



## **Board of Trustees Meeting**

Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017

639 St. Ann's Avenue, Bronx, NY 10455

**Trustees Present:** Valerie Capers, Lori Chemla, Andrea Cohen, Felicia Franklin, Serigne Gningue, Davon Russell, and Jodi Schneider

**Trustees Absent:** Nancy Biberman

**SBECA Staff Present:** Ric Campbell

**WHEDco Staff Present:** Katie Aylwin, Meredith Leverich

**Number of Attendees from the General Public Present:** 2

### **Call to Order:**

Davon Russell called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

### **Public Comment:**

Carmen Bravo, a parent of a SBECA student, requested that her daughter receive speech therapy to help her express herself. Ric Campbell suggested that Ms. Bravo meet with him during the school day to review her daughter's IEP and discuss any other questions she may have.

### **Resolution to Approve Minutes from April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Board Meetings**

Lori Chemla made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Board meeting, as presented on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Andrea Cohen seconded, and the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes.

### **Executive Director's Report**

#### Lottery Update & Student Enrollment for 2017 – 2018 School Year

Mr. Campbell reported that the lottery was held on April 20<sup>th</sup> and that parents are currently responding to the school's outreach to officially enroll for the 2017 – 2018 school year. The school staff will continue outreach to families on the wait list, as needed, until enrollment is complete.

#### Returning Faculty & New Faculty Recruitment for 2017 – 2018 School Year

Mr. Campbell reported that he has offered seven candidates faculty positions for next year, and that five have accepted to date. He said that the faculty recruitment process is challenging, given the competition with other schools. He has received referrals from Lehman College, one of the school's higher education partners, which is the best strategy for connecting to good candidates. Serigne Gningue said that Lehman College has an initiative similar to the NYC Teaching Fellows, which offers teaching credentials to people with subject expertise, and that he will promote SBECA to graduates.

### Student Attrition

Mr. Campbell reported that 23 students have withdrawn from SBECA throughout the 2016 – 2017 school year and circulated a document to Board members that outlined the reasons why each student had done so. Reasons include moving out of state, needing additional special education services, and never having attended despite enrolling before the year started. Mr. Campbell said that he could discuss the different cases in more detail during an Executive Session if Board members have questions about specific students.

### Mathematics State Examination Update

Mr. Campbell reported that the math exams had taken place in the days prior and earlier that day. He reminded the Board of the strategies that the school has taken, under the direction of Auriel Watson, to prepare students for these exams. He also said that new legislation allows students to complete the exams in as much time as they need, which relieves an element of pressure and removes the stigma for needing additional time. Mr. Campbell said he had spoken to 12 students about their experiences with the tests and they gave positive feedback. He added that the State indicated that results would be complete as early as June, but may be released later in the summer if there are delays.

### Facilities Update

Mr. Campbell reported that the developer for the school's new building remains confident that construction will be complete in July and that the DOE has offered to assist SBECA with acquiring a certificate of occupancy in time for the start of the 2017 – 2018 school year. He said that the walls are complete and that the ceilings will be completed soon. He added that electricians are working on the wiring to facilitate the school's technological infrastructure. The Board decided to visit the site before the June 1<sup>st</sup> Board meeting.

### NYSED Visit

Mr. Campbell reminded the Board that a representative from NYSED, the school's authorizer, would be at the school on Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> as part of the annual site visit. He said that he would notify the Board of the exact timing when it is confirmed.

### **Finance Committee Report**

Mr. Russell reported that the Finance Committee had met with Digant Bahl from Accounting Solutions of NYC, the school's accountant, to review the school's recent financial statements and the draft 2017 – 2018 budget, which had been prepared by Mr. Bahl in partnership with Mr. Campbell. Mr. Russell said that the Finance Committee was generally satisfied with the draft, but had requested a few changes. Mr. Russell said that the revised budget would be circulated in advance of the June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, at which time the Board would vote to adopt the budget or not.

### **New Business**

#### National Science Foundation

Lori Chemla inquired about the two National Science Foundation grants that Mr. Campbell previously discussed. Mr. Campbell said that he expected to hear back about the school's applications sometime in August.

#### NYC Regional Technovation App Challenge

Ms. Chemla reported that students in the Girls Who Code group have been developing apps, which they will pitch at the NYC Regional Technovation App Challenge on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.

### Uniforms

Jodi Schneider said that Global Brands has agreed to manufacture uniforms for the school at cost. The uniforms will be similar to the original ones, and will include navy pants, Bermuda shorts, and skirts; white and blue shirts; two styles of sweaters; and gym clothes. The Board discussed possible ordering and delivery methods, as well as the challenges that the different methods may pose to both the families and school staff. Mr. Russell asked Katie Aylwin to find out from families what might be feasible to them, so that the decision is made with their needs in mind. Ms. Schneider confirmed that Global Brands would produce samples in advance, which would allow families to determine sizing needs before ordering.

### **Adjournment**

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 pm.