

**Board of Trustees Meeting  
May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019  
801 East 156th Street, Bronx, NY 10455**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Resolution to Approve Minutes from March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board Meetings
- IV. Faculty & Staff Survey
- V. Scheduling Committee Meetings
- VI. Principal's Report
  - A. Facilities Update
    - i. Status of Roof Netting
  - B. Academic Programming Update
    - i. Summer Academy Planning
    - ii. Year-End Plans
  - C. Student Retention & Enrollment for the 2019 – 2020 School Year
  - D. Attendance
  - E. Student Support Services Update
  - F. School Culture Update
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Next Meeting – June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- IX. Executive Session
- X. Adjournment

**Reunión de la Junta  
2 de mayo de 2019  
801 East 156th Street, Bronx, NY 10455**

**AGENDA**

- I. Inicio de Sesión
- II. Comentarios Públicos
- III. Resolución para Aprobar las Minutas de las Reuniones del 7 de marzo y 4 de abril de 2019
- IV. Encuesta al Personal y Facultad
- V. Coordinación de Reuniones de Comités
- VI. Informe del Principal
  - A. Planta Física
    - i. Estatus de la malla del techo
  - B. Programación Académica
    - i. Planificación para la Academia de Verano
    - ii. Planes de fin de año
  - C. Retención y Reclutamiento de Estudiantes para el Año Escolar 2019-2020
  - D. Asistencia
  - E. Servicios de Apoyo a los Estudiantes
  - F. Cultura Escolar
- VII. Asuntos Nuevos
- VIII. Próxima Reunión – 6 de junio de 2019
- IX. Sesión Ejecutiva
- X. Cierre de Sesión



**Board of Trustees Meeting  
Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019  
801 E 156<sup>th</sup> Street, Bronx, NY 10455**

**Board of Trustees Present:** Nancy Biberman, Lori Chemla, Andrea Cohen, Felicia Franklin, Serigne Gningue, Davon Russell, Jodi Schneider

**Board of Trustees Absent:** Valerie Capers

**SBECA Staff Present:** Brian Blough, Melissa Gaspard, Josef Haas, Mahelia Mighty, Catherine Toussaint

**WHEDco Staff Present:** Meredith Leverich

**Members of the Public Present:** 1

**Call to Order**

Davon Russell called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

**Public Comment**

No members of the public asked to participate in public comment.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Russell stated that the Board did not have a quorum present on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019, due to a variety of scheduling conflicts, and therefore could not pass a resolution to adopt the minutes from the March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board meeting at that time. He said that the Board should review the minutes for both the March 7<sup>th</sup> and April 4<sup>th</sup> meetings.

Jodi Schneider made a motion to approve the March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board meeting minutes, as presented on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. Lori Chemla seconded and the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes.

Jodi Schneider made a motion to approve the April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board meeting minutes, as presented on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. Felicia Franklin seconded and the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes.

**Faculty & Staff Survey**

Mr. Russell said that the Personnel Committee is reviewing and revising the faculty and staff survey, with guidance from Jim Ford and Roblin Webb of Ford Research & Solutions. He said that the survey should be finalized and circulated by the end of May, for review by the Board in mid-June.

## **Scheduling Committee Meetings**

Mr. Russell said that the Personnel Committee would need to meet in advance of the next Board meeting to review Mr. Blough's proposed staffing plan for the 2019 – 2020 school year, which would inform the budget for that fiscal year. He added that the Finance Committee should also convene to review the year-end projections for 2018 – 2019 and the draft budget for 2019 – 2020. He said that Meredith Leverich would help coordinate times for both of these meetings.

## **Principal's Report**

### Facilities Update – Roof Netting

Mr. Blough reported that the netting had been completed and that surfacing work has begun and should be completed the week of May 6<sup>th</sup>. He said that a ribbon cutting event is planned for the eighth grade students. He said that he would take a final walk-through with the contractor before making the final payment.

### Academic Programming Update

#### *Summer Academy Planning*

Mr. Blough presented calendars for the Summer Orientation Program for incoming sixth grade students and the Summer Credit Recovery Program for current students who failed one class for the year. Both programs will run from July 8<sup>th</sup> through July 25<sup>th</sup> and will be staffed internally.

#### *Year-End Plans*

Mr. Blough said that classrooms continue to push rigor throughout the end of the school year. Students will sit for a fourth ELA Interim Assessment on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019, using prior State Exams, to measure recent growth. Eighth grade students continue to prepare for the Algebra I Regents Exam on June 19<sup>th</sup>. And sixth and seventh grade students are beginning to learn standards that will be included in the State exams that they will take next year.

The eighth grade class will graduate on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Hostos Community College.

### Operations & Enrollment for the 2019 – 2020 School Year

The SBECA Lottery for the 2019 – 2020 school year was held on April 12<sup>th</sup>. In total, 522 applications were submitted, including 333 applications for incoming sixth grade seats. To date, 62 families have accepted seats and 19 have registered for the 2019 – 2020 school year. An additional 25 families have made registration appointments already.

### Attendance

Mr. Blough reported that the school's 90%+ attendance rate is 76%, which is higher than the district's rate of 69% and lower than the City's rate of 81%. Overall, the attendance rate for SBECA is 92.5%. The City average last year was 94% and the district's was 91%.

### Student Support Services Update

SBECA's English Language Learner (ELL) population is in the process of completing the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT). The speaking section has been completed, and the listening, reading and writing sections will be administered the week of May 6<sup>th</sup>.

The school has access to Financial Accounting Management Information System (FAMIS) funds, which will be used to purchase books for classroom libraries and the school library, reading intervention materials,

copies of *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* by Sean Covey for the entire eighth grade graduating class, and enrichment books for staff.

#### School Culture Update

The School Culture Team has adjusted its responses to the behavioral data collected through Kickboard, with guidance from Sundiata Salaam from Ford Research & Solutions. The restorative approach intends to help students develop a positive perception of self, centered on their behavior choices. The team has rolled out a “Gold Member” incentive program, which rewards students who earn 25 or more positive behavior points in one week.

#### Other Updates

The leadership team will hold a planning retreat for two days in May to prepare for the August Professional Development Program and the 2019 – 2020 school year.

SBECA is partnering with Bed Stuy New Beginnings Charter School (BSNB), including visits to each school that showcase special initiatives. BSNB will highlight their student newspaper and SBECA will highlight Spartan News.

Mr. Blough is working with Jim Ford from Ford Research & Solutions and his team on SBECA’s charter renewal application. The bulk of the application is due on August 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **New Business**

There was no new business.

#### **Next Meeting – June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Mr. Russell said that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

#### **Adjournment**

The Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.