



Omigbade Escayg
Head of School/Director

Mary Kate Boesch
Assistant Principal

Linda Hatfield Ed. D.
Assistant Principal

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

February 24, 2015

Members Present:

Henry A. Lambert, Chair
Michael A. Catlyn
Diana J. Lee
Tony Betaudier
Omigbade Escayg
(ex-officio non-voting)
DeShana Thomas
(FAC-ex officio voting)

Member Absent

Others Present

Linda Hatfield - Asst. Principal
Mary Kate Boesch - Asst. Principal
Colathur Janardhanan
Jamel Cherry
Karen Cename
Sean Perham – Faculty Rep
Jahde Huntley (parent?)

The meeting was held on February 24, 2015 at the School. The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm. The minutes for the meeting held on January 7, 2014 were reviewed and adopted.

Finance

Janardhanan reported that net income for 7/1/14-12/31/14 was \$64,123.54. There may be some recapture of about \$60,000 since payments were based on 260 students. The budget has been readjusted to the current enrollment of 236. Parents who should pay for meals usually don't – about \$18,000 uncollected. Omi will send a letter to those parents requesting payment. Based on the revised budget, there will be a loss of \$100,000. Jamel will report on new technology purchases at the next meeting. Consultant fees of \$24,000 were noted.

Jamel reported on recruitment. From Sept. 2014-January 2015, we received 321 online applications, of which 153 were for kindergarten. There has been active follow-up by staff and by the Family Action Committee to try to increase the yield.

Omi reported that the amendment to the Charter to increase enrollment to 260 students was denied due to our academic record although we were advised to appeal when our test scores were better. If we enroll more than 240 students, we will not be compensated for the excess.

Michael to follow-up on the rule that whatever we spent for BCS space modification must be matched by an expenditure for PS 23.

Henry proposed a 2% contribution for pension, which was passed.

Education

The School is on the DOE watchlist since we haven't met benchmarks in two years. Discussion on what we can do to improve scores.

Linda reported that based on November assessments for ELA, most were scoring at levels 1 and 2. Based on Feb. assessment more were moving from level 2 to 3 and 1 to 2 except in the 4th grade where there were more 1s. Some students need more help in writing and time management. We need to get the comparison to City-wide performance.

Mary Kate reported that in November, most students were in levels 1 and 2 in Math. As of Feb. there was more movement up with Grade 1 performing well.

It was reported that assessments were based on content for the entire year, so as the year progressed, there should be more movement up as students were taught more of the content.

Tests will begin in a month.

Children are responding to the Saturday Academy tutoring program run by George Leonard. There are only 4 or 5 sessions left. An evaluation will be made next week on results of Leonard program vs. the regular program.

Legal

The Wedding Garden's business is slow. In addition to donated dresses, dresses are being made in China.

Faculty Report

Sean reported on the Winterfest. There were positive reactions from the parents.

Family Action Committee

14 parents signed up to be bus matrons but only 8 are needed. There is required training which costs \$400 per person. Total cost for matrons with the training cost will be about \$45,000. It should be determined whether parents can contribute to the costs of having matron on the bus. There were 67 bus incidents to date. The Board approved having bus matrons.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Diana J. Lee, Secretary