



Omigbade Escayg
Head of School/Director

Mary Kate Boesch
Assistant Principal

Karma Suttles
Assistant Principal

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

September 20, 2015

Members Present:

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

BCS Personnel Present

Mary Kate Boesch- Asst. Principal
Jamel Cherry
Colathur Janardhanan
Jahde Huntery
Karma Suttles - Asst Principal

Parents Present

Sandra Cacho
Felicia Alexander
Garey Sneed
Joyselia Cruz
Nildi Avila

Members Absent:

Mark David
MihrainKeoseian
(ex-officio non-voting)

The meeting was held on September 20, 2015 at the School. The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm. The minutes for the meeting held on June 15, 2015 were not adopted as they were not complete and will be presented for review at the next meeting.

Education

Mary Kate reported on a new approach in working with teachers on math. She is working with each grade level teacher for a full day to plan six-week cycles of lessons. She will also be observing classes and examining student work.

Karma reported that we are returning to Balanced Literacy and implementing the Teachers College Reading & Writing Project. She is also using a six-week cycle to determine what should be accomplished in that cycle.

Substitute teachers cover during teacher training time.

Literacy night is an event in which parents come in to discuss what students are reading. Karma reported on a thousand-book challenge in which students will try to read 1,000 books. There is a need for books, which will cost approximately \$50,000. Each year there is a loss of 5% of the books. No vote was taken on this proposal.

BCS discipline policy was submitted to the Dept. of Education as part of our accountability requirements. There is no clear policy for expulsion of a student. We will adopt the DOE policy as part of the renewal application.

Finance

Enrollment is now at 234 and is likely to reach 240. (Each child enrolled will bring \$13,877 to the School, representing an increase of \$100 over last year's per pupil tuition). There is a projected loss of \$250,000 with 234 students. Recruiting is ongoing. There are 14-23 students per class. Not every class has an assistant teacher since some classes are ICT rooms, which feature a Special Ed teacher. We have one ICT room on each grade except 3rd Grade. We expect a onetime benefit from the State of \$75,000.

Jamel reported that last year we trained and hired 6 bus monitors but only 2 passed the test and we lost 2 more over the summer. We now have 4 that are cleared but the buses are not yet staffed with monitors and we expect another 2 week delay. There have been 7 reported incidents already. Jamel will report on the process for bringing on bus monitors at the next meeting.

There is an audit by Schall&Aschenfarb going on now for submission by November 2, 2015.

Faculty Report

None was given as the Faculty Rep was absent.

Family Action Committee

At the beginning of the school year it was apparent that we needed a parent liaison, someone within the school who would help to coordinate family events and address parent issues. DeShana who is now the school's secretary is serving as the Parent Liaison and will also assist in coordinating the efforts of the Family Action Committee.

DeShana reported that the meeting of FAC will be held the same night as literacy night and an election will occur. The Nominating Committee for FAC seats are the two Asst. Principals, two family reps and Desiree. We need to strengthen family involvement and create committees for different functions.

It was reported that there are no Title 1 funds specifically allocated to the FAC.

Head of School Report

Omi reported that all grades were now fully staffed. The charter renewal visit is scheduled for September 30, with a second visit planned for November 19. We are preparing for the September visit.

The date and location of the next Board meeting was set for October 28, 2015

Public Comment

A parent suggested we look for a new bus company.

A parent suggested that parents be told if classes are given snacks.

A parent suggested that fifth grade parents need information on Middle School Fairs.

A parent suggested that information be provided to parents on the new New York City IDs.
Concern was expressed over bullying on the bus and Omi will get direction from the Board of Education on what penalties can be imposed for bullying on the bus.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana J. Lee, Secretary