

ESPERANZA ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting
301 W. Hunting Park Avenue, Philadelphia PA 19140- Library
Thursday, June 20, 2019
5:30pm

Board Members Present: Rev. Roger Zepernick, Mr. Angel Ortiz, Rev. Magaly Martinez, Ms. Nancy Santiago-Negron, Mr. Danilo Diaz, Ms. Asdrey Irizarry

Board Member Absent: Rev. Luis Cortes, Denise Cruz, Ms. Carmen Torres, Ms. Carmen Rocha, Ms. Wanda Novales, Mr. William Hopkins

Staff/Management Present: Mr. David Rossi, Rev. Danny Cortes, Ms. Kim Chung, Ms. Alicia Mojica, Mr. David Solivan, Mr. Nathaniel Stringfield, Ms. Earline Williams, Mr. William Garcia

Greeting

Rev. Roger Zepernick welcomed all and called the meeting to order at 5:35pm.

Approval of Minutes

Rev. Roger Zepernick called for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 28, 2019 and May 9, 2019 Board meeting. Mr. Angel Ortiz motioned. Mr. Danilo Diaz seconded. The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Rev. Roger Zepernick, Rev. Magaly Martinez, Ms. Nancy Santiago-Negron, Ms. Asdrey Irizarry, Angel Ortiz, Danilo Diaz- 6

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

HS Director of Instruction Report

Mr. Nathaniel Stringfield reported that the first 9th grade orientation took place on June 11th. Approximately 175 students were represented out of 222. Parents had the opportunity to tour the building and ask questions regarding courses, expectations and graduation requirements. A session was held separately with parents to discuss parental involvement and how to meet students' needs.

Students successfully took the PSSA & Keystone exams. Results will be made available sometime in July. A report will be provided to the Board in August reflecting student outcomes.

MS Director of Instruction Report

Mr. David Solivan reported that Classroom Diagnostic Tools testing (CDT's) were administered to all incoming 6th grade students. Data will be analyzed to determine appropriate class placement and

intervention decisions for all core content areas.

Students successfully completed their promotion requirements therefore, no students were retained for the present school year. Approximately, 37 students who ended the year with one or two failing courses will be participating in the extended academic intervention program from June 17-28th. These students will be officially promoted upon completion of the program.

The eighth grade awards assembly was held on June 5th in the middle school gym. This is the first year the award assembly was opened to parents. A parent initiated a petition requesting parent participation in the award assembly. Administration was able to make the necessary changes for parents to participate and over 300 people were in attendance.

ES Director of Instruction Report

Ms. Kim Chung reported that elementary school is preparing students for the third grade PSSA. There has been continual communication between parents and staff members in order to help students meet their academic and behavior expectations in the classroom. The student anthology (published book) will be presented at the Board retreat.

Finance Committee Report/Monthly Financial Report

Mr. David Rossi reported on the items reviewed during the Finance Committee Meeting on Tuesday, June 18th. Discussed during the meeting was the March 2019 financial report which reflects a point-in-time surplus of \$265,000. Affecting the year-end report is the per pupil allotment which was changed by the School District of Philadelphia. This change would bring approximately \$100,000 in additional revenue which will be received by June 25th.

FY 2019-20 Budget

Mr. David Rossi informed that total revenue for the 2019-2020 budget is a little over \$26 million. The budget enrollment is projected to be 1633 when compared to 1573 in the prior school year. Now that the charter has been approved the cap is now 1855 for the FY 20. Administration has made the decision to increase enrollment to 1633 and replace any student who withdraws over the summer months.

The per pupil allotment was announced by the School District of Philadelphia in June. The regular education allocation is \$10,156 and special education allocation is \$28,979.

Below is a list of grants and title fundings:

IDEA (Special Education) - \$252,168	Title II - \$115,137
Ready to Learn Block Grant - \$68,208	Title III - \$81,906
Title I - \$1,383,799	21st Century Grant - 299,000

Ms. Nancy Santiago-Negron asked how students are replaced if there is a vacant seat. Mr. Rossi replied that there is a waitlist for each grade level.

Budgeted expense reflects a placeholder on salary increases. A few existing staff members will have enhanced roles thereby budgeting a salary adjustment. We are budgeting additional staff that can serve the budgeted enrollment.

New Positions include:

- High School Director of Student Development - To better match the ratio of administration in other grades.
- High School Math Teacher - Additional Alg 1 Support
- High School Science Teacher - to account for increased offerings
- Elementary School Core Subject Teacher - Increased intervention for low level students.
- Elementary School Part Time School Climate Officer - needed to provide additional security in the Elementary School building
- Middle School Emotional Support Teacher - Needed to support the current needs of our Special Education students
- Middle School Therapist, Part Time - Increased load of counseling for Special Education students.
- Middle School Math and Reading Specialists - Needed to support lower level Math and Reading students
- Middle School Specials Teacher - In order to execute the exposure to additional majors at the MS level additional staff is needed.
- Special Projects Director - This position was cut 2 years ago. Providing additional support and management for central administration.

Positions moving from Part-Time to Full-Time:

- High School Social Studies Teacher - needed due to meet enrollment demands
- High School Music Teacher - needed to meet course requests.
- Elementary School English Language Development Paraprofessional - needed to provide additional support for English Learners at the ES level.
- Administrative Assistant to English Language Development Department - Additional support for the ELD Department

Administration and Board members discussed challenges to increase health costs.

Total Expense is \$26,080,504.

Rev. Roger Zepernick called for a motion to approve FY 2019-20 budget. Mr. Angel Ortiz motioned. Rev. Magaly Martinez seconded. The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Rev. Roger Zepernick, Mr. Angel Ortiz, Rev. Magaly Martinez, Ms. Nancy Santiago-Negron, Mr. Danilo Diaz, Ms. Asdrey Irizarry - 6

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Charter Agreement Approval

Mr. David Rossi informed the charter agreement reflects enrollment of students in grades kindergarten through 12 during the charter term (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2024) with a maximum of 1855 during the 2019-2020 school year, and a maximum of 2235 students during the 2020-2021 school year.

Rev. Roger Zepernick called for a motion to approve the Charter Agreement as presented by the Charter Office. Mr. Angel Ortiz motioned. Rev. Magaly Martinez seconded. The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Rev. Roger Zepernick, Mr. Angel Ortiz, Rev. Magaly Martinez, Ms. Nancy Santiago-Negron, Mr. Danilo Diaz, Ms. Asdrey Irizarry - 6

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

One Day Board Retreat Planning

The Board Retreat is scheduled to take place on Friday, August 2, 2019. A draft of last year's retreat agenda has been provided as a sample.

Wellness Policy

Mr. David Rossi informed that the wellness policy provided has been updated. Ms. Alicia Mojica informed that the wellness policy was updated after an audit conducted reflected the need to add nutritional requirements.

Rev. Roger Zepernick called for a motion to approve the Wellness Policy as presented. Rev. Magaly Martinez motioned. Mr. Angel Ortiz seconded. The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Rev. Roger Zepernick, Mr. Angel Ortiz, Rev. Magaly Martinez, Ms. Nancy Santiago-Negron, Mr. Danilo Diaz, Ms. Asdrey Irizarry - 6

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Updated Child Abuse Policy

Mr. David Rossi spoke about the updated child abuse policy. On March 22, 2019 an email was sent from the Auditor General's Office requesting a copy of the Child Abuse Policy. The child abuse policy was vetted by external counsel.

Rev. Roger Zepernick called for a motion to approve the Child Abuse Policy. Angel Ortiz motioned. Rev. Magaly Martinez seconded. The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Rev. Roger Zepernick, Mr. Angel Ortiz, Rev. Magaly Martinez, Ms. Nancy Santiago-Negron, Mr. Danilo Diaz, Ms. Asdrey Irizarry - 6

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Personnel Report

Mr. David Rossi presented the personnel report as follows:

NEW HIRES

Elementary School:

1. Davis, Jeana: FT Curriculum Developer/Instructional Coach, 4/8/2019
Master Degree in Educational Administration, Gwynedd Mercy University
PA Instructional II Elementary K-6, Administrative I Principal PK-12
2. Amaro, Luz: PT Receptionist, 6/17/2019

Middle School:

1. Duran, Scarle: PT Special Education Paraprofessional, 3/4/2019
Associates Degree in Liberal Arts Studies, LaSalle University

High School: None

Operations/Shared Services

1. Furcel, Audel: On Call Maintenance Worker, 2/19/2019
2. Cadet, Shakira: On Call Food Service Worker, 3/4/2019
3. Espino, Rosa: On Call Food Service Worker, 4/1/2019

SUBSTITUTES

1. Rodriguez, Jackeline, 3/25/2019
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Holy Family University
2. Benson, Keturah, 4/8/2019
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fibers & Textile Studies, University of the Arts

STAFF DEPARTURES FOR THE 2018-2019 ACADEMIC YEAR:

1. Speer, Sandra: MS Spanish Teacher, 3/29/2019
2. Ortiz, Estephanie, ES Receptionist 4/3/2019
3. Mosley, Quareme: Oncall School Climate Officer, 4/8/2019
4. List, Yana: HS Science Teacher, 4/10/2019

STAFF DEPARTURES FOR THE 2019-2020 ACADEMIC YEAR:

1. Reed, Dayna: ELD Coordinator (HS), 6/7/2019
2. Jalloh, Alpha: Math Teacher (HS), 6/7/2019
3. Inqui, Dayna: Math Teacher (HS), 6/7/2019
4. Glisson, Jaime: Social Studies Teacher (HS), 6/7/2019
5. Rosci, Cristine: English Teacher (HS), 6/7/2019
6. Erickson, Jocelyn: Science Department Head (HS), 6/7/2019

7. Williams, Kevin: Special Education Paraprofessional (HS), 6/7/2019
8. Toma, Amanda: Special Education Teacher (MS), 6/7/2019
9. Weber, Erika: ELD/Science Teacher (MS), 6/7/2019
10. Thomas, Sarah: ELD/ELA Teacher (MS), 6/7/2019
11. Hylton, Olivia: Science Special Teacher (ES), 6/7/2019
12. Candelario, Liliam: Spanish Teacher (ES), 6/7/2019
13. Carter, Kamia: Special Education Teacher (ES), 6/7/2019
14. Schuschu, Aaron: Special Education Paraprofessional (ES), 6/7/2019

On-Leave:

1. Williams, Brittney

Vacancies:

HS:

- FT Special Education Math Teacher
- FT Math Teacher
- HS Science Teacher

MS:

- FT Special Education Teacher
- FT ELD/Science Teacher
- FT ELD/ELA Teacher

ES:

- PT Spanish Teacher
- FT Special Education Teachers
- Special Education Paraprofessional

Staff Transitions:

1. Leon, Vanessa: Previous Position PT Driver, New Position: On Call Driver, 2/5/2019 (Shared Services)
2. Colon, Iliana: Previous Position PT Food Service Worker, New Position: On Call Food Service Worker, 1/31/2019
3. Borden, Rana: Previous Position On-Call Substitute, New Position: FT Science Teacher, 8/15/2019 (MS)
4. Perez-Serrano, Victor: Previous Position ELD Teacher, New Position: FT ELD Coordinator, 7/1/2019 (HS)

Rev. Roger Zepernick called for a motion to approve the personnel report. Mr. Angel Ortiz motioned. Rev. Magaly Martinez seconded. The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Rev. Roger Zepernick, Mr. Angel Ortiz, Rev. Magaly Martinez, Ms. Nancy Santiago-Negron, Mr. Danilo Diaz, Ms. Asdrey Irizarry - 6

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Contract Approvals

Mr. Rossi presented the contract approvals as follows:

- 1. Flynn O’Hara:** the administration is recommending the approval of the contract between Flynn O’Hara and Esperanza Academy for the purchasing of school uniforms. Attached are the prices by school for each piece of the uniform.
- 2. Consulting Agreement:** the administration is recommending the approval of the contract between Erin von Zuben and Esperanza Academy Charter School for providing evaluations for students. Rate per evaluation \$900. Total evaluations, approximately 9. Total not to exceed \$8,100.
- 3. Student Number 233-188:** EA has entered into a settlement agreement for A.C. Student Number 233188. The settlement includes attorney fees at a cost of \$7,000 and \$39,000 for compensatory education.
- 4. Educ8Every1, LLC:** the administration is recommending the approval of the contract between Educ8Every1, LLC and Esperanza Academy Charter School for the developing of ELD Curriculum and enhancing content area curriculum for English Learners (EL). Total not to exceed \$5,000.
- 5. LinkIt!:** the administration is recommending the approval of the contract between LinkIt and Esperanza Academy Charter School for the use of assessment management and analytics platform software for the 2019-20 school year, subject to legal review. **Total yearly cost \$24,179.**
- 6. The Salvation Army:** the administration is requesting approval of the contract between Esperanza Academy and The Salvation Army for the lease of the space at 3150 N. Mascher Street for the elementary school. Annual lease fee is \$261,179.04 payable in twelve (12) monthly installments in the amount of \$21,764.92 for the 2019-2020 school year.

Rev. Roger Zepernick called for a motion to approve the contracts as presented. Mr. Angel Ortiz motioned. Rev. Magaly Martinez seconded. The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Rev. Roger Zepernick, Mr. Angel Ortiz, Rev. Magaly Martinez, Ms. Nancy Santiago-Negron, Mr. Danilo Diaz, Ms. Asdrey Irizarry - 6

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

CEO Report

Mr. David Rossi provided an update on the charter reform bills. The legislative bills have left the house and may get altered.

Esperanza Academy has been ranked 10th ranked charter school in PA and 5th highest charter high school in Philadelphia according to the US News Best High School. We have been awarded Best High School status 5 of the past 7 years.

Enrollment Report

As of June 7, 2019 there was a total of 1573 students enrolled.

Other Topics/Next Meeting Preview

Next Meeting – Board Retreat August 2, 2019

Meeting Adjournment

Board of Trustees Secretary

Date

Minutes Taken by William Garcia