

ESPERANZA ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, June 21, 2018

301 West Hunting Park Avenue- Library

Philadelphia PA 19140

5:30 pm

Board Members Present: Rev. John Rice, Mrs. Denise Cruz, Rev. Roger Zepernick, Mr. Brandon Fuller, Rev. Magaly Martinez, Ms. Asdry Irizarry, Mr. Jeremy Ibrahim, Mr. Danilo Diaz, Ms. Wanda Novales

Board Members Absent: Rev. Luis Cortes, Mrs. Carmen Rocha, Ms. Carmen Torres, Mrs. Nancy Santiago Negron

Staff/Management Present: Mr. David Rossi, Mr. Artemio Rodriguez, Rev. Danny Cortes, Mr. David Solivan, Ms. Tania Diaz, Mr. Nate Stringfield, Ms. Kim Chung, Ms. Lori Walinsky, Mr. Jorge Calixto, Ms. Alicia Mojica, Ms. Yesenia Garcia, Ms. Rebecca DiSalvo

Greeting

Rev. Roger Zepernick welcomed all and called the meeting to order at 5:41pm. Ms. Essence Caleb from the Charter School Office was present.

Approval of Minutes

Rev. Roger Zepernick called for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2018 meeting. Denise Cruz moved. Asdrey Irizarry seconded. The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Rev. John Rice, Mrs. Denise Cruz, Rev. Roger Zepernick, Mr. Brandon Fuller, Ms. Asdrey Irizarry, Mr. Jeremy Ibrahim, Mr. Danilo Diaz, Ms. Wanda Novales- 8

Nays: 0

Abstentions: Rev. Magaly Martinez-1

Board Elections

The Board elections have been tabled until the August meeting. Rev. Roger Zepernick announced that Rev. John Rice has stepped down from the Academy's Board of Trustees and this will be his last meeting. The Board, Management and Administration thanked Rev. Rice for his service to Esperanza Academy.

HS Director of Instruction Report

Mr. Jorge Calixto spoke to steps being taken to prepare sophomores and Juniors for the SAT this fall. Benchmarks have all been completed and a new data warehouse software will be implemented in the fall.

Jeremy Ibrahim asked about students' participation in the ACT vs. SAT. Mr. Jorge Calixto informed that the school is testing site for the SAT and students are encouraged to take both the ACT and SAT exams.

MS Director of Instruction Report

Ms. Tania Diaz reported that students have made gains in the Math benchmarks but they are waiting for the ELA results. Extended school year began yesterday and will run until June 29, 2018. Teacher retention is on the rise. Only three teachers need to be replaced. A total of about 72 students in grades 6-8 are participating in the extended school year.

Mr. David Rossi wanted to acknowledge the Board members who contributed financially to the chess team to go to regionals and nationals.

ES Director of Instruction Report

Ms. Kim Chung reported out that student reading levels have increased. Benchmarks show that 64% of the students were reading on or above grade level. Students scored 70% or higher on the year end math assessment. An updated schoolwide behavior plan will be rolled out for the next school year.

Danilo Diaz asked if administration knows the reason why students are below reading level. Ms. Chung shared that some students do not have the home support available and many came to the school reading at a C level or lower and are making significant progress.

Wanda Novales asked what are we doing to help the students increase their reading level and how are we supporting teachers. Ms. Chung informed that intervention blocks are being worked into the schedule in order to provide further support to students and faculty members.

Wanda Novales has asked that additional allocations be placed at the Elementary school level in order to increase reading levels.

Finance Committee Report/Monthly Financial Report

Rev. Roger Zepernick thanked Carmen Rocha, Rev. Magaly Martinez and Wanda Novales for participating in the finance committee meetings.

Mr. Artemio Rodriguez reported out that present ratio is 0.50. As of April 30, 2018 there is a slight deficit of 24,114.

Mr. David Rossi informed that the revised per pupil allotment rates for charter schools in Philadelphia has been released and the reconciliation report would be submitted next month.

Rev. Roger Zepernick called for a motion to approve the Finance Report. Rev. Magaly Martinez moved. Asdrey Irizarry seconded. The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Rev. John Rice, Mrs. Denise Cruz, Rev. Roger Zepernick, Mr. Brandon Fuller, Ms. Asdrey Irizarry, Mr. Jeremy Ibrahim, Mr. Danilo Diaz, Ms. Wanda Novales, Rev. Magaly Martinez- 9

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

FY 2018-19 Budget

Mr. David Rossi presented the 2018-2019 balanced budget. The draft budget in April reflected a projected deficit. The per pupil allotment from the School District has been released. The budget reflects total revenue and expense of \$23,895,689. The management agreement is currently being

negotiated. Final decision is pending.

The budget reflects overall 3% wage increase and other expenditures are built on current year projections and anticipated student needs for the upcoming school year.

Staffing include adding: 2 English Language Development Teachers (1 for the elementary and 1 for the high school), PT Special Education Teacher (elementary), PT Registrar (shared services)

The following positions have been reduced: Director of Educational Technology and PIMS Administrator are partially outsourced, 1 HS Spanish Teacher – No longer needed due to scheduling structure,

Rev. Roger Zepernick called for a motion to approve the FY 2018-19 budget. Denise Cruz moved. Rev. Magaly Martinez seconded. The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Rev. John Rice, Mrs. Denise Cruz, Rev. Roger Zepernick, Mr. Brandon Fuller, Ms. Asdrey Irizarry, Mr. Jeremy Ibrahim, Mr. Danilo Diaz, Ms. Wanda Novales, Rev. Magaly Martinez- 9

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Mr. Danilo Diaz excused himself at 6:46pm.

One Day Board Retreat Planning

Mr. David Rossi reported out that the One-Day retreat will take place on Thursday, August 2, 2018. Topics to be discussed are but not limited to; renewal process, financial stability plan, and Elementary Intervention Plan.

Ms. Denise Cruz excused herself at 6:54pm.

Personnel Report

Mr. David Rossi presented the personnel report as follows:

Elementary School

1. Donahue, Dulcimeire: English Language Development Teacher, 8/20/2018
Master in Education, Rosemont College
Pennsylvania Instructional I Certificate in PK-4, ESL PK-12 (pending)

Middle School

1. Fortin, Merari: On-Call Special Education Paraprofessional, 5/21/2018
Diploma in Education from National Pedagogical University Francisco Morazan,
Tegucigalpa, Honduras
2. Perez, Issa: On-Call One-on-One English Language Development (ELD) Paraprofessional,
5/21/2018
Associates in Arts from Community College of Philadelphia (in progress)
3. Peralta, Aldercy: Math Teacher, 8/20/2018
Bachelor of Arts Secondary Education in Mathematics, Holy Family University
Pennsylvania Instructional I Certificate in Mathematics Pending

High School

1. List, Yana: FT Biology Teacher, 3/26/2018
Master in Curriculum and Educational Technology, Ball State University
Pennsylvania Instructional I Certificate in Biology 7-12
2. Edgar-Nielsen, Kinsey: Summer School Teacher, 6/25/2018
Master of Science in School Psychology, Eastern University
3. Solivan, Melissa: Summer School Teacher, 6/25/2018
Master in School Counseling, Capella University
4. Wingert, Lauren, English Language Development Teacher, 8/20/2018
Masters of Education Secondary English, Temple University

Operations/Shared Services

1. Gonzalez, Angel: On-Call Food Service Worker, 3/21/2018
2. Mancebo, Jorge: On-Call Maintenance Worker, 5/7/2018
3. Rivera, Christian: On-Call Maintenance Worker, 5/7/2018
4. Alicea, Anthony: On-Call Maintenance Worker, 5/23/2018

SUBSTITUTES

1. Conroy, Michael (MS) Long Term Substitute
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, University of Oregon
2. Jackson, Michael (MS) Long Term Substitute
Master of Education in Elementary Education, Lincoln University
Pennsylvania Instructional I Certification in Elementary K-6 and English 7-12
3. Ortiz-Flores, Janeyshka (MS) Long Term Substitute
Bachelors in Psychology, LaSalle University

STAFF DEPARTURES FOR THE 2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR:

1. Gonzalez, Angel: On-Call Maintenance (MS) 5/7/2018
2. Roman, Anthony: FT Maintenance (HS) 5/7/2018

STAFF DEPARTURES FOR THE 2018-19 ACADEMIC YEAR

1. Wenger, Dana: Teacher (ES) 6/15/2018
2. Carlton, Greta: PT Art Teacher (ES) 6/15/2018
3. Noemy Diaz-Pagan: PT Eng. Lang. Learner Paraprofessional (ES) Returning in 1/19, Leaving for educational purposes. 6/15/2018
4. Stephanie Lankau: Eng. Lang. Learner Teacher (ES) 6/15/2018
5. Thomas Ballingall: Science Teacher (MS) 6/15/2018
6. Wanda Cruz: Spanish Teacher (MS) 6/15/2018
7. Louisa DeHart: Eng. Lang. Learner Teacher (MS) 6/15/2018
8. Barbara Hedges-Goettl: Coordinator of Special Programs (MS) 6/15/2018
9. Gabriella Amato: Spanish Teacher (HS) 6/15/2018
10. David Bronstein: Math Teacher (HS) 6/15/2018
11. Joshua Croll: Eng. Lang. Learner Teacher (HS) 6/15/2018
12. Michelle Dembo: English Teacher (HS) 6/15/2018
13. Maria Hernandez: Spanish Teacher (HS) 6/15/2018
14. Rene Melendez: Film Teacher (HS) 6/15/2018
15. Ryan Moyer: Math Teacher (HS) 6/15/2018
16. Jean Schreiber: English Teacher (HS) 6/15/2018
17. Andrew Wakelee: Social Studies Teacher (HS) 6/15/2018

On-Leave:

- Rachel LeCure (MS)
- Widalys Gonzalez (HS)
- Renae O'Donnell (MS)
- Patricia Mulcahy (MS)
- William Garcia (MS)

Vacancies:

Elementary School

1. 2nd Grade Teacher
2. Art Teacher (PT)
3. ELL Paraprofessional
4. ELL Teacher

Middle School

1. Science Teacher
2. Spanish Teacher
3. ELL Teacher

High School

1. Spanish Teacher
2. Math Teacher (2)
3. ELL Teacher
4. English Teacher (2)
5. Film Teacher
6. Social Studies Teacher

K-12

1. Speech and Language Therapist
2. Registrar (PT)

Staff Transitions: None

Rev. Roger Zepernick called for a motion to accept the Personnel Report. Asdrey Irizarry motioned. Jeremy Ibrahim seconded. The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Rev. John Rice, Mrs. Denise Cruz, Rev. Roger Zepernick, Mr. Brandon Fuller, Ms. Asdrey Irizarry, Mr. Jeremy Ibrahim, Mr. Danilo Diaz, Ms. Wanda Novales, Rev. Magaly Martinez- 9

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Contract Approvals

Mr. David Rossi presented contracts for approval:

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. A portion of the proceeds are given to the school as

vouchers in order to assist families who are enduring financial hardship.

- 2. Student Number 160176:** EA has entered into a settlement agreement for E.B. Student Number 160176. The settlement includes attorney fees at a cost of \$4,500 and \$27,000 for compensatory education.

Rev. Roger Zepernick called for a motion to accept the Contract Report. Magaly Martinez moved. Jeremy Ibrahim seconded. The vote was as follows:

Yeas: Rev. John Rice, Mrs. Denise Cruz, Rev. Roger Zepernick, Mr. Brandon Fuller, Ms. Asdrey Irizarry, Mr. Jeremy Ibrahim, Mr. Danilo Diaz, Ms. Wanda Novales, Rev. Magaly Martinez- 9

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

CEO Report

Mr. David Rossi report that there was a meeting held with the charter community about the charter agreements. Excellent School PA is a nonprofit who supports school choice. This organization provided a report ranking schools on public data available.

Ms. Essence Caleb from the Charter School Office informed the Board that data used is public the report is Keystone, PSSA and anything the charter school produces and is available online. The Charter School Office does not only use benchmark but look at the entire 5-year term.

Next Meeting – Board Retreat August 2, 2018

Meeting Adjournment 7:23pm

Board of Trustees Secretary

Date

Minutes Taken by Yesenia Garcia