



## Board of Trustees Meeting

June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016

301 West Hunting Park Avenue - Library

Philadelphia PA 19140

5:30pm – 7:30pm

**Board Members Present:** Rev. Roger Zepernick; Chairperson, Carmen Torres; Secretary, Rev. Magaly Martinez, Nancy Santiago Negron, Rev. John Rice, Brandon Fuller, Denise Cruz

**Board Absent:** Rev. Luis Cortes; Ex-Officio, Carmen Rocha, Danilo Diaz, Jeremy Ibrahim

**Staff/Management Present:** Rev. Danny Cortes, David Rossi, Artemio Rodriguez, Angela Smith, Nathaniel Stringfield, Yohana Giraldo, Lori Walinsky, Alicia Mojica, David Solivan, Benjamin Brous, Tania Diaz, Walter Toliver, Carolyn Faulkner-Beitzel, Andrew Rosado and Ellen Espailat

**Other:** Patricia Hennessey

The meeting was called to order at 5:33pm.

### I. Greetings

### II. Minutes\*

Rev. Zepernick called for a motion to approve minutes from the April 18th meeting. Rev. Martinez motioned. Mr. Fuller seconded. The vote was as follows:

**Yeas:** Rev. Roger Zepernick, Carmen Torres, Rev. Magaly Martinez, Nancy Santiago Negron, Rev. John Rice, Brandon Fuller, Denise Cruz - 7

**Nays:** 0

**Abstentions:** 0

Mr. Rodriguez noted a change to the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting from GASB-8 to GASB-68.

Rev. Zepernick called for a motion to approve minutes from the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting with the correction. Mrs. Cruz motioned. Ms. Torres seconded. The vote was as follows:

**Yeas:** Rev. Roger Zepernick, Carmen Torres, Rev. Magaly Martinez, Nancy Santiago Negron, Rev. John Rice, Brandon Fuller, Denise Cruz - 7

**Nays:** 0

**Abstentions:** 0

### III. Finance Committee Meeting



Rev. Zepernick took a moment to acknowledge a death in Mrs. Rocha's family. In her place, Mr. Rossi reviewed the minutes of the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee reviewed the April 30<sup>th</sup> Finance report. The current is 0.75. Mr. Rossi presented the Budget vs Actual and discussed the end of year projections.

#### **IV. Monthly Financial Report**

Mr. Rodriguez reported the current ratio to be 0.75 as of March 31<sup>st</sup>. The current assets are \$2.2 million and the current liabilities \$3.0 million with \$1.4 million owed to related parties. The total net pension liabilities are \$18,643,000 due to GASB-68.

Mr. Rossi stated that the May and June finance reports would reflect the downward adjustments of the per pupil allotment. Mr. Rossi stated the Academy has received \$36,000 less than budgeted in revenue. Overall the Academy has spent \$45,000 less than budgeted in total expenditures.

#### **V. 2016-2017 Budget**

Mr. Rossi presented a budget with a projected enrollment of 1435 students including 1,183 regular education students and 252 special education students. Highlights of the budget include increases in salaries, no budget cuts were made and school personnel positions were added.

Rev. Zepernick called for a motion to approve the 2016-2017 Budget. Mrs. Santiago Negron motioned. Mr. Fuller seconded. The vote was as follows:

**Yeas:** Rev. Roger Zepernick, Carmen Torres, Nancy Santiago Negron, Brandon Fuller, Denise Cruz - 5

**Nays:** 0

**Abstentions:** Rev. John Rice, Rev. Magaly Martinez - 2

#### **VI. K-5 Update**

Rev. Zepernick asked for a modification in the agenda to accommodate Patricia Hennessey who would speak on the K-5 Documents. Ms. Hennessey presented all of the changes that are recommended and agreed to by both herself and internal counsel. Mr. Rossi stated that there would be a change in the agreement with the school district to allow the school to increase enrollment to 800 students.

a) Mr. Toliver presented the Management Agreement for the K-5.

Rev. Zepernick called for a motion to approve the changes to the Management Agreement. Mr. Fuller motioned. Ms. Torres seconded. The vote was as follows:

**Yeas:** Rev. Roger Zepernick, Carmen Torres, Nancy Santiago Negron, Brandon Fuller, Denise Cruz - 5



**Nays:** 0

**Abstentions:** Rev. John Rice, Rev. Magaly Martinez – 2

b) Ms. Hennessey presented the changes she recommended to the by-laws. Mr. Toliver stated his reservations with certain changes. The board discussed the matter and agreed to keep the by-laws as congruent to the current structure as possible.

Rev. Zepernick called for a motion to approve the amendments to the by-laws. Mr. Fuller motioned. Mrs. Cruz seconded. The vote was as follows:

**Yeas:** Rev. Roger Zepernick, Carmen Torres, Nancy Santiago Negron, Brandon Fuller, Denise Cruz - 5

**Nays:** 0

**Abstentions:** Rev. John Rice, Rev. Magaly Martinez – 2

c) Mr. Toliver presented the lease agreement which is being reviewed. The lease would be for 1 year with an option to extend for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

Rev. Zepernick called for a motion to approve the lease agreement. Mr. Fuller motioned. Ms. Torres seconded. The vote was as follows:

**Yeas:** Rev. Roger Zepernick, Carmen Torres, Nancy Santiago Negron, Brandon Fuller, Denise Cruz, Rev. John Rice, Rev. Magaly Martinez - 7

**Nays:** 0

**Abstentions:** 0

## **VII. Middle School Director of Instruction Report**

Mrs. Diaz stated that they have created the Academic Achievement Program with the goal of providing extra resources to students who failed two or more courses. The Chess team competed and won 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place. The Middle School has a ceremony to dedicate the mural mounted in the main entrance where the artist and students amongst others were present. The Middle School baseball team ended their season being undefeated and will be playing in the Championship game June 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **VIII. High School Director of Instruction Report**

Mrs. Smith stated Keystones exams were held and there was good student participation. The Academy will run their credit recovery program throughout the school year in an effort to provide more opportunities for students falling behind. Mrs. Smith presented pictures of Esperanza Academy alumni who are now graduating from university/college.

## **IX. Board Retreat Planning**



Mr. Rossi presented the board retreat agenda from the previous year and asked for any items they would like to see in the coming board meeting. The board asked for information on the K-5 roll out, facilities ideas, introducing Latino/PR history into curriculum, an analysis of the K-5 build out, college placement results and a carve out of MS vs HS Budgets.

#### X. CEO Report

Mr. Rossi also stated that that IDEA and Title Funding visits were conducted with no findings. Philadelphia Charters for Excellence has extended an invitation for Mr. Rossi to join their board.

#### XI. Contract Approvals\*

Mr. Rossi presented the grant approvals as follows:

1. **Steven Teare:** Independent Contractor as of 04/15/2016, \$20 per hour as needed. Bachelors of Science in Art Education from Temple University. PA Teacher Certified K-12 Art Education
2. **Brittany Johnson:** Independent Contractor as of 04/15/2016, \$20 per hour as needed. Bachelors of Science in Art Education from Temple University. PA Teacher Certified K-12 Art Education
3. **AMLA Contract:** The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Afterschool Program has entered into a contract with AMLA for a 3 year term. ALMLA will provide Percussion and Guitar lessons. The total cost of the contract is \$24,000.

Rev. Zepernick called for a motion to approve the Contract Approvals. Mr. Cruz motioned. Mr. Fuller seconded. The vote was as follows:

**Yeas:** Rev. Roger Zepernick, Carmen Torres, Nancy Santiago Negron, Brandon Fuller, Denise Cruz, Rev. John Rice, Rev. Magaly Martinez - 7

**Nays:** 0

**Abstentions:** 0

#### XII. Personnel Report\*

Mr. Rossi presented the Personnel Report as follows:

##### New Hires:

1. Carmelo Ramos: On-Call Maintenance Worker, GED, 05/03/2016
2. Isa Allende-Averette: FT Temporary Receptionist, 05/13/2016 (MS)  
Slidell Baptist Seminary, A.A. in Theology, Minor: Biblical Counseling
3. Janice Huger: On-Call Food Service Worker, High School Diploma, 05/16/2016



4. Janet Rodriguez: On-Call Food Service Worker, High School Diploma, 05/16/2016
5. Leon Wesolowski: PT School Climate Officer, Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education from Philadelphia College of Bible, 05/16/2016 (MS)

**Staff Departures – 4**

**On-Leave – 1**

**Vacancies – 4**

**Staff Transitions – 1**

Rev. Zepernick called for a motion to accept the Personnel Report as presented. Mr. Fuller motioned. Rev. Rice seconded. The vote was as follows:

**Yeas:** Rev. Roger Zepernick, Carmen Torres, Nancy Santiago Negrón, Brandon Fuller, Denise Cruz, Rev. John Rice, Rev. Magaly Martínez - 7

**Nays:** 0

**Abstentions:** 0

**III. Grant Approvals\***

Mr. Rossi presented the Personnel Report as follows:

1. **Healthy Kids Grant:** Action for Healthy Kids has granted Esperanza Academy Charter School. These grant dollars specifically support work done during the 2016-2017 school year that support enhanced school nutrition and physical activity programs, policies, and practices. Total Amount \$5,000
2. **Mentoring Grant:** Nueva Esperanza Inc., National Programs Department, has awarded a Mentoring Grant to Esperanza Academy. The grant is provided through the Department of Justice. The grant will be effective as of January 1st, 2016. The sum of this grant is not to exceed \$47,250.00

Rev. Zepernick called for a motion to accept the Personnel Report as presented. Rev. Martínez motioned. Mr. Fuller seconded. The vote was as follows:

**Yeas:** Rev. Roger Zepernick, Carmen Torres, Nancy Santiago Negrón, Brandon Fuller, Denise Cruz, Rev. John Rice, Rev. Magaly Martínez - 7

**Nays:** 0

**Abstentions:** 0

**IV. Discipline Report**

Mr. Stringfield stated that the year to date number of suspensions is lower than the previous year. The Academy is in the process of developing an intervention strategy which will target students and aid in lowering out of school suspensions.

  
**ESPERANZA ACADEMY**  
CHARTER SCHOOL

**XV. Enrollment Report**

Mr. Rossi stated that the enrollment has decreased to 1425 due to end of year student transitions. He also stated the Academy did a great job of maintaining the 1435 students throughout the year which was the projected student enrollment.

**(VI. Operations Report**

Mrs. Mojica stated there was an increase in breakfast due to the new initiate set in place with "breakfast to-go".

**VII. Adjournment**

Rev. Zepernick called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm. Mr. Fuller motioned. Ms. Torres seconded. The vote was as follows:

**Yeas:** Rev. Roger Zepernick, Carmen Torres, Nancy Santiago Negrón, Brandon Fuller, Denise Cruz, Rev. John Rice, Rev. Magaly Martínez - 7

**Nays:** 0

**Abstentions:** 0



Board of Trustees Secretary

Minutes Taken by Ellen Espaillat

08/16/16

Date