

## DRAFT MINUTES

### Date

Wednesday, January 22, 2020  
6:00-7:30pm

### Board Members In Attendance

X Alvarez Symonette, Chair  
X Michael Busch, Vice Chair  
X Rema Davis, Secretary  
X John Duval  
X Frank Taylor (by phone)

### School Staff in Attendance

X John Clemente  
X Natalie Ferrell  
X Brandon Corley

### Guests in Attendance

X Neysha Mejia  
X Kiu Geula  
X Jason Pagan  
X Pdraig Shea  
X Robert Gulya

### Board Members Not In Attendance

Katelyn Del Priore, Treasurer  
Kunjan Mehta  
Mayling Blanco  
Patrice Fenton

Al B (in place of Ken Cerini)

### To do items:

- Still need to make a decision on groundbreaking ceremony or just ribbon cutting (Tentatively beginning of May) (JC)
- Kiu will send list of typical furniture/equipment and with potential upgrades
- Finance committee should manage a FFE (furniture, fixtures, equipment) budget
- Introduce Kiu with Teens for Food (JC)
- MARCH 13th Mock Interview Day (NF sending out details to board)
- Staff would like to make a presentation at the Board Meeting

### Agenda

1. Call to Order and Welcome
  - Alvarez, Chair, called the meeting to order.
    - Meeting called a week earlier as Leadership will be at meeting next week: Panel for Education Policy, which will review our new space.
  - December 2019 Board Meeting minutes to the Board
  - Mike motioned to approve the minutes; Rema seconded the motion
  - Minutes unanimously approved by Board

2. Student items:
  - Mid-year intensive for students at risk of not graduating
  - Staff going to Educon (learning in real life and designing challenges; has historically attracted media attention)
  - Have a Posse Scholarship
  - Another student received \$22k/year for Pace university for business
  - 100% of seniors have applied to college
  
3. Facilities Update (by Neysha/Kiu)
  - Steel up to 3rd floor; installing planks. With good weather should see a floor per 1-1.5 weeks for the super structure completion around March. Sidewalk bridge will be installed soon (DOB approved already). Elevator delivery in April. Should have permit in 2-3 weeks for water connection; awaiting temporary power permit. This week we will start selecting equipment and fixtures for kitchen and gym.
  - Still need to make a decision on groundbreaking ceremony or just ribbon cutting. Tentatively beginning of May.
  - Kiu will send list of typical furniture/equipment and with potential upgrades
  - JC will review audio/visual budget with Kiu/Alvarez's contact
  - Alvarez introduced Teens for Food
  
4. Facilities Planning
  - Lease extension timeline
    - Confirmed until July 2021 for 10th-12th grade
  - Temporary space, planning for larger incoming class.
    - In discussion with Boriqua
    - Reviewed update of a few potential options for 9th grade only
  
5. Academic Accountability
  - Academic Warning:
    - 9th grading having issue with 4-5 courses; 12th graders 2 courses. Plans for improving knowledge or work, but if students get to probation stage then a much more serious plan is put into place.
    - Currently about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of 9th graders have received warning, but Leadership believes this is the norm as our model is different and it will take students some time to adjust.
  - Career readiness/Internship Data
    - Focus for internships is Jr. year.
    - Stacks + Joules has been extremely successful, including a monthly paid intern. (Mike Busch introduction)
    - What are quality control on these internships?
    - Have met fall goal to secure 25% internships for jr. Class
    - Have created new internships with reading programs
    - One of our Jr students just passed the IRS exam and is now a certified tax preparer with Ariva
    - 21 Sophomore students committed to applying to apprenticeship programs in CareerWise; 4 Students in finals for Summer Search; 2 students accepted with full scholarships to Seeds of Peace.
  - March 13th Mock Interview Date
    - Can this be used to our
  
6. Financials
  - How to plan to close EOY fundraiser

- John/Maria/Rema to discuss
  - Consider monthly evening/drinks/intro to school
  - What other fundraisers can/should be opened
- 7. Board Development
  - Kunjan and Frank in final stages
  - Advisory Board, time to revisit and push forward with 7-10 people that can be able to help as needed (any question in Charter?)
- 8. Insurance Costs
  - Considering moving to a PEO; Under review with JC and Cerini
- 9. Next Meeting: February 26, 2020

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Rema Davis, Secretary, on January 22, 2020.*