

## DRAFT MINUTES

### Date

Wednesday, April 29, 2020  
6:15-8:00pm

### Board Members In Attendance (by video)

X Alvarez Symonette, Chair  
X Michael Busch, Vice Chair  
X Katelyn Del Priore, Treasurer  
X Rema Davis, Secretary  
X John Duval  
X Mayling Blanco

### School Staff in Attendance (by video)

X John Clemente  
X Brandon Corley  
X Natalie Ferrell (Leadership)

### Guests in Attendance

X Kiu Geula

### Board Members Not In Attendance

Frank Taylor  
Patrice Fenton  
Kunjan Mehta

### To do items:

- JC - need to decide/release flooring to Kiu
- JC - Walton, Gates and other grants
- JC - Guide Board through Leasehold Condominium proposal: a) terms, b) setup costs and annual costs (if any), c) proposed Board Members (including background checks), d) financial implications, e) potential risks.
- JC - Prepare FY 2020-21 budget draft, FY 2020-21 budget narrative, updated long-term budget (3-5 years) draft, and potential capital expenditure (CAPEX) budget (related to short-term location and long-term location)

## Agenda

1. Call to Order and Welcome
  - Alvarez, Chair, called the meeting to order.
  - March 2020 Board Meeting minutes to the Board
  - Mike motioned to approve the minutes; Rema seconded the motion
  - Minutes unanimously approved by Board
2. Facilities (Kiu):
  - Received notice that school construction was not essential; lost 2.5 weeks due to charter school program assistance/lobbying.
  - Daily visit from building inspectors
  - Hoist will be installed tuesday; have reached 5th floor

- 1st or 2nd week of May hoping to get steel from plant in Canada; then continue with plank
- Advanced with safety work; staircase up to 4th floor on one side, 2nd floor on other side; hope to be at 5th floor in both soon.
- Have enclosed building exterior to 3rd floor.
- Air conditioning equipment for 1st of June. Should be able to get all equipment before its needed
- Plumbing contractor is last to start coming back.
- Have a Saturday permit and can work 6 days per week.
- End of May, beginning of June, hope to have a new schedule for delivery time of building; summer of 2021. Kiu still hoping to get to Jan 2021.
- Kitchen equipment has been approved; flooring has not been completed;
- Friends of SBC organization will benefit the charter school
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### 3. Academic Accountability (John C / Brandon)

- Attendance: some dips over the week, but relatively strong (82%) to the city-wide average (77%).
- Spending mornings doing 1:1 check-ins with students; which allows them to stay engaged but also tune program to each student's needs
- Nearly 90% of staff feels that they are still well connected to their students
- NYC: Students will get the opportunity to revise grades or pass/fail through July.
  - Regents have been cancelled
- Our approach: our model already non-traditional
  - Majority of staff feels "more productive" or "neutral"
  - Shifted schedule to based on needs; have opened up "Mastery Wednesdays" for students that need more support or more opportunities for excelling
  - Credit accumulation is not time bound; course can be passed at any time
- Teacher retention thoughts
  - Staff's primary concern is that staff feels their jobs are protected

### 4. Finance (John C)

- State funding for lower income school areas hit more than higher income; we should expect this to happen
- NYS anticipated flat budget for next year, but we believe it's likely to get cut further.
  - Currently reviewing contracts for any cuts/holds we can make
  - Should get more detail in last 2 weeks of May of per pupil for next year
- Current cash on hand is 74 days; next pay date is May 1
- Discuss/build budget to include some cash reserves
- Staff compensation: will be included in budget as a non-negotiable item
- Reaching out for additional grants
- Healthcare
  - Will get a quote for a July 1 start
- Facilities
  - 3 options; working toward finalizing asap

### 5. Leadership Updates

- Received a grant for more technology as well as more Chromebooks and wireless
- "Giving Tuesday" May 5th - likely again a technology ask
  - Regarding college acceptance - still working on confirmation of need, but may not be as great as we initially thought

- College signing - May 15th
- Graduation - tentatively scheduling for July 26th

6. Next Meeting: May 27, 2020

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Rema Davis, Secretary, on April 29, 2020.*