

Board of Trustees

Ankur Dalal (Treasurer)
Dean Guzman
Maureen Higgins (Secretary)
Jonathan Howard
Takako Kono (Vice President)
Lauren Mirsky (President)
Rebecca Ostrov
Bryan Winthur
Arun Yang



St. HOPE Leadership Academy Board of Trustees Board meeting

MINUTES

October 23rd from 6:30 – 8:00pm
222 W. 134th Street

1. Welcome

Call to Order

Ankur Dalal	Present
Dean Guzman	Present
Maureen Higgins	Absent (Excused)
Jonathan Howard	Absent (Excused)
Takako Kono	Present
Lauren Mirsky	Present
Rebecca Ostrov	Present
Bryan Winther	Absent (Excused)
Arun Yang	Present

Also present at the meeting: Constance Bond, Executive Director and prospective Board members Christopher Greeley and Steve Colon

2. Public Comment

No requests for public comment were received

3. Consent Agenda

The minutes of the meeting held on September 18, 2014 were unanimously approved.

4. Nominating Committee

- Ms. Kono introduced prospective Board members Christopher Greeley and Steve Colon, both of whom spoke about their background and rationale for joining the Board. Board members asked follow-up questions to which both candidates responded.
- ***Mr. Colon and Mr. Greeley were unanimously elected to the Board, subject to approval by school's Authorizer.***

5. Accountability Committee

- Dr. Ebbie Parsons from Yardstick conducted a presentation on the student recruitment and enrollment services his organization could provide. Board members reviewed the proposal and asked questions about the potential partnership.
- Dr. Bond provided an update regarding the grade configuration change proposed to the DOE CSAS in fall, 2013 that the school move from serving grades 5-8 to grades 3-8. At this time, the DOE strongly prefers traditional grade configurations for schools (K-5, 6-8, 9-12) and is not inclined to support odd grade configurations. Dr. Bond presented the option of dropping 5th grade, detailing potential benefits and

drawbacks. The Board discussed at length and determined that, with the option of moving to a 3-8 configuration no longer possible, dropping 5th grade was in the long term best interest of the school. Following this discussion, the Board unanimously approved a change to the Charter that would ***truncate the grades served by eliminating 5th grade while keeping the overall enrollment at 300 for 6th, 7th and 8th grade.*** The proposed plan for this change would phase in beginning in fall, 2015 and would not require additional space.

6. Finance Committee

- Mr. Dalal presented the Financial Statements and Communication with Those Charged with Governance from the 2013-2014 audit conducted by MBAF. The Finance Committee met via phone conference on Friday, October 17 with the auditors and fully supports the findings. Following this discussion, the ***Board unanimously approved the audit documents as presented by MBAF.***

Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

I, Maureen Higgins, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting Secretary of St. HOPE Leadership Academy, a New York education corporation and that the above is a true and complete copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the said corporation held on *October 23rd* at which a quorum was present throughout.

Dated (*October 24, 2014*)