

Board of Trustees

Steve Colon
Ankur Dalal (Treasurer)
Christopher Greeley
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

March 26, 2015 from 6:30 – 8:00pm
222 W. 134th Street

- **Welcome**

Call to Order

Steve Colon	Present
Ankur Dalal	Present
Christopher Greeley	Absent (Excused)
Dean Guzman	Present
Maureen Higgins	Absent (Excused)
Jonathan Howard	Present
Takako Kono	Present
Lauren Mirsky	Present
Rebecca Ostrov	Present
Bryan Winthur	Present
Arun Yang	Absent (Excused)

Also present at the meeting: Constance Bond, Executive Director; Vivian Lee, Business and Human Resources Manager; and Laurel Schwartz, Assistant Principal

- **Public Comment**

No requests for public comment were received

- **Consent Agenda**

The minutes of the meeting held on February 26, 2015 were unanimously approved.

- **Finance Committee**

- Ms. Lee provided responses to additional Board questions regarding a possible change from American Funds to the Principal Financial Group for the school's staff retirement program. The Board reviewed all provided information and discussed the proposed timeline for the service change. At the conclusion of the discussion, the **Board voted unanimously (with Mr. Winthur abstaining) to sever the relationship with American Funds for provision of the school's 401k program and transition all funds and services to the Principal Financial Group with Ms. Rochelle Forster of AXA as the fund administrator.** This transition will take place to coincide with the close of the fiscal year on June 30, 2015.

- **Accountability Committee**

- Dr. Bond and Ms. Schwartz presented data from the implementation of Interim III. Math results continued to be encouraging, particularly for 6th and 8th grade, where the school beat the network by as much as ten points. The ELA interim mirrored Day 3 of the state exams, consisting solely of short answer and essay.

Teachers were able to collect useful information on how to continue to build writing stamina and scholar writing skills in preparation for the state exams.

- **Principal Update**

- Dr. Bond discussed the recent visit by representatives of character.org to determine if the school would be named a National School of Character. Results will be announced at the beginning of May.
- Dr. Bond discussed the high school placement results with 72% of 8th graders accepted to one of their top three choices and 44% admitted to their top choice. 35% of scholars were accepted to a US News and World Report Nationally-Ranked Gold, Silver or Bronze medal winner, including six to an audition school and one to Bronx Science. While 100% of scholars were accepted by a high school, staff will continue to work with a small number during Round 2 to gain admission to better schools.
- Dr. Bond presented the draft schedule for the new 6-8 configuration that includes more time/resources for interventions and pull-outs for the 6th grade. The Board asked questions and discussed.
- The Board discussed the Dashboard data.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:59 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 *March 26, 2015* at which a quorum was present throughout.

Dated (*March 27, 2015*)