

Board of Trustees

Gabrielle Apollon
Michael Chan
Steve Colón (Secretary)
Ankur Dalal (Treasurer)
Maureen Higgins
Megan Jordan
Takako Kono (Vice President)
Rebecca Ostrov
Lauren Tannenbaum (President)
Arun Yang



St. HOPE Leadership Academy Board of Trustees
Board meeting

MINUTES

February 16, 2017 from 6:30-8:00 pm
222 W. 134th Street

• **Welcome**

Call to Order

Gabrielle Apollon	Present
Steve Colón	Absent (Excused)
Ankur Dalal	Present
Maureen Higgins	Present
Megan Jordan	Present
Takako Kono	Present
Lauren Tannenbaum	Present
Rebecca Ostrov	Absent(Excused)
Arun Yang	Present

Also present at the meeting: Constance Bond, Executive Director and Prospective Board Member Girmay Zahilay.

• **Public Comment**

No requests for public comment were received

• **Consent Agenda**

The minutes of the meeting held on January 19, 2017 were unanimously approved.

• **Nominating Committee**

- Ms. Kono presented the candidacy of Girmay Zahilay to the Board. **Mr. Zahilay was unanimously elected to the Board, subject to approval by school's authorizer.**

• **Accountability Committee**

- Dr. Bond reviewed the results of the midline MAP exams administered in January. All grades/subjects made growth as measured by an increase in the percent of scholars on grade level and/or growth in average RIT scores that exceeds national growth averages. The second round of interims was implemented the week of February 13th with Dr. Bond reporting scores at the March meeting. Projections on proficiency rates for the state exams will also be presented at the March meeting.
- Dr. Bond reviewed the December Achieve3000 report, noting that the percent of scholars schoolwide considered College and Career Ready (the Achieve3000 measure of state test readiness) increased from 13% to 18% since September, 2016. The percent of scholars considered "far below" this measure shrank from 40% to 25% over this same period. Scholars also far exceeded national norms of growth in average Lexile levels so far this school year, in each grade more than tripling the expected gains.

- **Finance Committee**

- Dr. Bond updated the Board on opening the Vanguard investment account, which is now complete.
- Ms. Tannenbaum led a discussion on the next steps to frame a possible alumni scholarship program using proceeds from the investment account. It is projected that a return of \$30,000 per annum will be generated to fund the scholarships. The Board discussed awarding three \$10,000 college scholarships to alumni each year with \$2,500 awarded each year of a four-year education (continuation based on a yet-to-be-determined proof of good standing). The Board also discussed having three stages of selection, with applications originally reviewed by a committee of teachers/staff who select a small group (perhaps 5) to advance to interview. The interview committee (a current scholar, a teacher, and a Board member) then makes recommendations to the Board Selection Committee who makes the final determination of recipients. Discussions will be ongoing, with Ms. Higgins investigating typical college scholarship application/award timelines and Dr. Bond investigating what is required for tax reporting for both the school and the scholarship recipients.

- **Principal Update**

- Dr. Bond presented the January Dashboard data. The Board discussed the attendance rate for January. Dr. Bond explained current state regulations around mandatory vaccinations and the policy's impact on January attendance.
- Ms. Apollon presented information from the Southern Poverty Law Center regarding supporting immigrant scholars and families. Dr. Bond shared the letter and FAQ going out to families on 2.17.17 that was originally generated by the NYC Department of Education and the Mayor's Office. Dr. Bond detailed other ways teachers and staff are supporting the school's immigrant families. Ms. Apollon provided additional supports and volunteered to conduct a workshop for staff and/or families.
- Dr. Bond discussed recent changes to the state ELA exam that require that the exam be read if a scholar has this accommodation in his/her IEP.
- Dr. Bond presented information on parent attendance at the February parent teacher conferences.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:07.

I, Steve Colón, 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 February 16, 2017 at which quorum was present throughout Dated (February 17, 2017)