



## Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

### Meeting Minutes

**Board Members Present:** Laura Blankfein, Adam Falkner, Laurence Heilbronn, Michelle Murphy, Max Osse, Peter Sack.

**Absent:** Matthias Ederer, Mark Hall

The Meeting was brought to order by Chair, Laura Blankfein, at 6:09pm. Quorum was found.

- Motion to approve May, 2023 meeting minutes
  - Trustee Heilbronn motioned, trustee Murphy seconded
  - May '23 meeting minutes approved by unanimous vote
  
- Financial Committee report
  - April Financials staying ahead of budget through april. We should not exceed the budget for the school year. Great for a difficult budget year.
  - Some of the key budget items are enrollment, staffing decisions, and ERC and changes to restructuring and lease costs.
  - *Proposed budget for 2023-2024*
    - Key initiatives.
      - What are we trying to achieve for the year? How do we build on recent successes we've had?
      - Reintroduce history. Our students have a woeful lack of historical context. The teachers have said that they'll drive the development of this curriculum.
      - Using successes from Wit and Wisdom and adding to history.
      - Leveraging a strong writing program.
      - Revising Math curriculum - the practice parts of it and comprehension parts of it are richer and accessible to all kids.
      - Curriculum is planned for ~160 days and there are days planned to reteach
      - Teachers have not been happy with the way the math curriculum had been laid out in the past. But this will support teachers. This will allow for differential learning.



- Aligning Science as a prep for Living Environment.
  - Strengthening teacher coaching - how do we help all of our teachers become masters of their own classrooms. Each teacher will have a personalized mentoring journey, including allowing them to get support from resources outside of the school.
  - Building internal capacity and re-adding grade team leads. Taking a stronger stance with departments and allowing leadership to lead those. They'll lead curriculum and teacher development but the rest will be led by teachers within the grade.
  - The other goal was to maintain staff levels.
  - Budget will be based on 200 students, which is still a conservative estimate based on what we think we'll have for a census.
  - Class sizes of about 20; allow for students who need support.
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- School Leadership Report
    - Enrollment
      - Enrollment steady and we picked up a 6th grader.
    - **Create**
      - 8th grade did a visual art gallery walk. Their final project/posters were posted in the "8th grade hallway"
      - Used this as an opportunity to invite prospective families. Huge success; 45 people came in that evening.
      - Piano recital was successful. Completed all of the juries, following a strict rubric that's used as a measure of success for SUNY.
      - One of our students won a teen writer prize. \$250 Award.
    - **Learn**
      - Discussion around SUNY MAP conditions.
      - This year we met all media growth conditions in Language Arts and Math in all grades.
      - MAP Reading. Growth seen across all students.
      - We've also been able to get all students to take the test and scores have increased.
      - Regents scores
      - Living Environment: All but one student took Living Environment regents. 76% of students passed the exam. 24% passed with distinction.



- 63% of students with IEPs passed the Living Environments Regent and 25% passed with distinction. There is no curve for this. These are proper passes.
- We have growth vs last year.
- Algebra I: There was an increase in participation.
  - 22% took it last year, 47% took it this year.
  - 96% passed this year, 11% passed with distinction.
  - 100% of kids with IEP passed, 17% passed with distinction.
- **Thrive**
  - We had a whole day of Field Day events.
    - There were competitions within the grades and among the grades,
    - It was great to see how well the 8th grade were mentors to the lower grades.
  - Graduation took place today:
  - The Dean Team decided to do a Bake Sale all about snowcones and slushies; will go towards taking kids outside and other fun things for the kids.
  - Panorama Survey: still analyzing the data. We'll use this to make sure that kids are feeling at home and safe within our community.
- Operations/School Report
  - Recruiting:
    - Looking like it will be better than anticipated.
    - Targeted totals: 76 in 6th grade, 76 in 7th grade, 76 in 8th grade.
    - Still holding open houses, despite what the numbers look like.
- Executive Session

Motion to adjourn the June 2023 NYC Charter School of the Arts Board of Trustees meeting at 7:34pm

Trustee Heilbronn motioned, trustee Murphy seconded