

North Star Academy Charter School of Newark
Board of Trustees Meeting
6:00 p.m., Monday August 14th, 2017
600 Clinton Avenue (Clinton Hill Campus)

The trustees were in attendance: Ravi Bellur, Bob Howitt, Rick Rieder, Paul Bambrick-Santoyo, James Verrilli, Ezdebar Abubatab, Nicole Bearce Absent trustees: Trisha Scipio-Derrick, Scott Sleyster, Tom Redburn, Larry Evans. Also attending were: Michael Ambriz, Mike Mann, Kelly Dowling, Juliana Worrell

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m. by Mr. Rieder, who noted that the meeting had been duly publicized, as required by law, in the Star Ledger and El Coqui.

It having been moved and duly seconded, the trustees voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the June 12th Board meeting.

A motion was made to move to executive session to discuss confidential a student discipline issue for one student. It having been moved and duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:13 pm.

After declaring a desire to return to open session, it having been moved and duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to reconvene in open session at 8:19 p.m.

Mr. Ambriz put forth a resolution that student ARJ continue his suspension of 60 days returning to school on Oct. 18 with 10 hours of 1:1 home instruction weekly; with 15 hours for the first 2 weeks of school. After discussion, it having been moved and duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve the aforementioned resolution.

Mr. Bambrick-Santoyo presented the State of North Star, which is the annual review of North Star's State test data, summary progress against its 2016-17 strategic goals, and identification of 2017-18 priorities. Mr. Bambrick-Santoyo explained the theme of this year's All-Staff Retreat, Brick by Brick, in celebration of North Star's 20th year in the Brick City of Newark. He reviewed the academic assessment results from the 2016-17 year. Elementary students in grades K-2 continued to perform well on the TerraNova assessment, although campuses varied more in achievement levels than in years past. On the PARCC exam, the trend of variation among campuses continued, particularly in ELA. Both elementary and middle schools had varying assessment results at nearly every grade level and content area, with some campuses performing extraordinarily well and others falling a bit below. Mr. Bambrick-Santoyo suggested that these variances could be due to multiple factors, such as experience level of each school's principal and instructional leaders, weak student culture in certain schools. Mr. Bambrick Santoyo noted that high 8th grade PARCC Algebra I results have not positively aligned with PSAT performance. Finally, Mr. Bambrick-Santoyo highlighted the instructional and operational priorities of North Star for the 2017-18 school year.

The leadership team presented the personnel hires of Jaleesa Newby-Jones for the school leadership team; Chelsea Thompson for the School Support Team; Rahatu Alasane, Jasmine Anderson, Amir Ballard, Stephanie Castro, Sonila Cela, Tiana High, Sara Huston, Marcus Jones, Conor Leary, Allison McClain, Martin Resendez, Ryan Swartz, Jah'Nique Campos, and Mara Olivares for Washington Park High School; Melissa Cummings, Chantaya King, Herod Nkechi, Justina Sotelo, Dillon Ward, Ely Zamora for Lincoln Park High School; Olivia Austin, Courtney Feldner, Maxwell Klausner, Kelly Laughinghouse, and Paris Murray for Downtown Middle School; Dionna Anderson, Tiffany Kemp, Jose Tejada Ferreira, and Khadija Williams for Clinton Hill Middle School; Muneerah Barnes, Jason Roche, and Hannah Ryan for Vailsburg Middle School; Aswan Minatee, Victoria Strain, Eileen VanDeMark, and Corinne Walker for West Side Park Middle School; Jarrad Brown, Dominique Bynum-Cooper, Alejandro Escobar, and Margaret Muga for Central Avenue Middle School; Donia Abdalla for Vailsburg Elementary School; Jennifer Fico, Erin Hagan, Jeremy

Hernandez, Catherine Ingegneri, James Kim, Linda Leonardo-Prestol for West Side Park Elementary School; Fredelyn Alcide, Hakiema Batemon, Shakiyrah Bishop, Emily Cilinski, Caitlin Foley, Rebecca Haines, Conrad Johnson, Adriana Ladouceur, Deborah Marshall, Elizabeth Molina-Nicholas, Giuliana Parisi, Kaina Veillard, Samantha Venables, and Victoria Zayat for Fairmount Elementary School; Allyson Panchak and Tajji Schmid for Liberty Elementary School; Meghan Larkin for Alexander Street Elementary School; and Marvin Benton Jr. for Elementary School 6. After discussion, it having been moved and duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve the hiring of the aforementioned individuals.

Mr. Ambriz presented the final 2016-17 Annual Report for approval. After discussion, it having been moved and duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2016-17 annual report as described in Resolution to Approve Final 2016-17 Annual Report.

Mr. Ambriz facilitated the annual review of North Star's Title I schoolwide plan. Following Mr. Bambrick's review of 2017 state assessment data during the State of North Star presentation earlier in the meeting, Mr. Ambriz proposed that the high student achievement results could be credited to the strategies implemented as part of the 2016-17 Title I schoolwide program, including an elementary school co-teaching model, and supplemental ELA instruction at the middle school level. The committee reviewed these strategies of the 2016-17 schoolwide program, and determined that the priority needs at North Star Academy for the 2017-18 school year are as follows: Closing the Achievement Gap, ELA Instruction, and Math Instruction. It was determined that, in order to continue to address these priority needs, the following strategies would be implemented for the coming school year: a co-teaching model at the elementary school level, and dual ELA and dual Math instruction at the middle school level. Following discussion, members of the Title I stakeholder committee approved North Star Academy's Title I schoolwide plan for the 2017-18 school year.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to renew contract for charter transportation services. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Final Resolution to Renew Contract for Charter Transportation Services.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to award bid and execute contract for charter multicampus janitorial services. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Final Resolution to Award Bid and Execute Contract for Charter Multicampus Janitorial Services.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to approve the use of non-federal funding for school lunch program. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Approve the Use of Non-federal Funding for School Lunch Program.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to review HIB self assessment. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Review HIB Self-Assessment.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to authorize the Leverage Leadership performance model. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Authorize Leverage Leadership Performance Model.

Mr. Rieder opened the floor for public comments: There were none.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to assign the Finance and Facilities Committee the authority to approve an auditor. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Assign the Finance and Facilities Committee the Authority to Approve an Auditor.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to approve Title I Schoolwide Plan. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Approve Title I Schoolwide Plan.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to approve Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) consolidated application. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Approve Elementary and Secondary Education Act Consolidated Application.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to approve Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) application. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Approve Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) Application.

Mr. Ambriz presented the Financial Report. The following subjects were discussed:

- Budget and Secretary's Report, as of 6/30/17
- Check register and Purchase Orders, 6/1/17 – 6/30/17
- Treasurer's Report, 6/1/16 – 6/30/17

It having been moved and duly seconded, the trustees voted unanimously to approve resolutions to accept the aforementioned resolutions and reports.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING IS Monday, SEPTEMBER 18th at 6:00 pm, AT THE NORTH STAR VAILSBURG CAMPUS (24 Hazelwood Avenue). Ravi will bring dinner.