

North Star Academy Charter School of Newark
Board of Trustees Meeting
6:00 p.m., Monday November 14th, 2016
18 Norfolk Street (Lincoln Park High School)

The trustees were in attendance: Nicole Bearce, Bob Howitt, Paul Bambrick-Santoyo, Rick Rieder, Scott Sleyster, Lawrence Evans, Trisha Scipio-Derrick, and Ezdehar Abu-Hatab. Absent trustees: Ravi Bellur, and James Verrilli.

Also attending were: Michael Ambriz, Mike Mann, Thomas Redburn

The meeting was called to order at 6:17 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 September 19th, 2016 Board meeting previously distributed to the Board members.

Yasmin Vargas, Principal of Vailsburg Elementary School, presented the annual Elementary Schools update. A 4th grade teacher and a few of her scholars and presented a mock lesson to the board to show the structure of math instruction in the elementary schools.

Mr. Ambriz presented the 2016-2017 Parent Council representatives to the Board who will represent the North Star Academy Washington Park High School and Vailsburg Middle School campuses. A motion was called to vote in Trisha Scipio-Derrick and Ezdehar Abu-Hatab as the Parent Council representatives, for a term of one year. It having been moved and duly seconded, the trustees voted unanimously to approve these board members with the aforementioned term length.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to amend and restate the bylaws to increase the number of Trustees and certain other revisions discussed by the Board. It having been moved and duly seconded, the trustees voted unanimously to approve the resolution as outlined in Resolution to Authorize a Request for Bylaw Amendment and Restatement. The term of each member of the Board is set forth in Article III. The board voted to re-approve its previous actions since 2007.

A motion was made to move to executive session to discuss confidential student discipline issues related to proposed suspensions. It having been moved and duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:43 p.m.

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 7:44 p.m.

Mr. Mann recommended that student KM be suspended for a total of 30 days, and that student SA be suspended for a total of 30 days. Mr. Diamon recommended that student MK be suspended for a total of 60 days, and that student KD be suspended for a total of 60 days, with a mandatory drug test to return to school.

After discussion, it having been moved and duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve the aforementioned recommendations.

Mr. Bambrick presented key data and observations from the first round of interim assessments in Kindergarten through 8th grade. At the elementary school level, Vailsburg & Alexander Street Elementary Schools' scores were notably high; Elementary School 6 and West Side Park Elementary Schools struggled more, and those leaders are receiving more development from their Associate Managing Director. At the

middle school level, Vailsburg and Clinton Hill Middle Schools outperformed all other middle schools across Uncommon; Clinton Hill's performance is especially notable because they only have one cohort of students who attended North Star elementary schools. Washington Park and Lincoln Park High Schools both performed very well compared to other Uncommon schools; school leaders continue to focus on improving math and science performance, while English and history performance is consistently high.

The leadership team presented the personnel hires of Jennifer Edwards, Whitney Wilcher for all North Star campuses; Nicole Nave, Nicholas Pasquale, Insu Yi for Washington Park High School; Donyea Bradley for Downtown Middle School; Melis Coklar, Dennis Farquharson for Vailsburg Middle School; Jamaal Ince, Kristen Walsleben, Michael Wines for West Side Park Middle School; Nicole Carcano for Vailsburg Elementary School; Damarly Dunkly, Christina Munoz, Marina Vasilic for Fairmount Elementary School; Kelly Kalis for Liberty Elementary School; Dominick Lubin 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 a resolution to approve memorandum of understanding between North Star Academy and Relay Resident for Relay Teaching Residency. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Approve Memorandum of Understanding between North Star Academy and Relay Resident for Relay Teaching Residency.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to review the HIB (Harrassment, Intimidation, and Bullying) investigation form. The recommendation of the investigation is no further action as this was not found to be HIB. After discussion, the board agreed with this recommendation.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to approve the final edits to the list of teachers who were tagged to NCLB and IDEA grants in FY16. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to approve updated NSA and NCLB Idea Salaries.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to authorize execution of a contract with VenueQuest for travel services. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Execute Travel Agent Contract for North Star Academy.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to authorize the renewal of the contract with Automated Buiding Controls for the provision of HVAC-related services. . After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Preliminary Resolution to Award and Execute HVAC Service Contract.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to approve the Memorandum of Understanding the formation of Uncommon Newark, Inc. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between North Star Academy and Newark Public Schools for the Newark Universal Enrollment System. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Approve the Memorandum of Agreement between North Star Academy and Newark Public Schools for the Newark Universal Enrollment System.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to amend the North Star Academy charter and section 2.14 of its charter agreement with the New Jersey Department of Education to reflect all of North Star's facilities. After

discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Authorize a Charter Agreement Amendment and Charter Amendment.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to approve budget transfers. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Budget Transfers.

Mr. Ambriz presented a resolution to certify the Fiscal Year 2015-16 audit and corrective action plan. After discussion, it having been moved and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described in Resolution to Certify 2015-16 Audit and Corrective Action Plan.

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

- Check register and Purchase Orders, 9/1/16 – 10/31/16
- Budget and Secretary's Report, 9/1/16 – 10/31/16
- Treasurer's Report, 9/1/16 – 10/31/16

It having been moved and duly seconded, the trustees voted unanimously to approve resolutions to accept the aforementioned reports. The board certifies that there are no overexpenditures of funds, budget line transfers are reviewed and approved, and the bill list is approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 PM.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING IS Monday JANUARY 23rd, 2016 at 6:00 pm, AT NORTH STAR WEST SIDE PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL (120 Livingston Street). Nicole Bearce will bring dinner.