

**North Star Academy Charter School of Newark**

**Board of Trustees Meeting**

Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 | 6:00 pm

Zoom

*The Trustees in attendance: Rick Rieder, Ezdehar Abuhatab, Thomas Redburn, Jamey Verrilli, Trisha Scipio, Nicole Bearce, Steve Creekmur, Lawrence Evans, Paul Bambrick-Santoyo, Ann Borowiec, Scott Sleyster and Corey Madison.*

*Also present: Sam Messer, Timeese Townes-Pratt, Maya Roth, Brett Peiser, Jon Hillery, Mark Stulberg, Mary Ann Villanueva, Christy Carvalho, and Barbara Martinez.*

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Mr. Rieder, who noted that the meeting had been duly publicized, as required by law, in the *Star-Ledger* and *The Americano* with updated address information posted on the North Star Academy website.

Mrs. Messer began the meeting by introducing Mr. Hillery and Ms. Villanueva to the board and welcoming them to Uncommon.

Ms. Scipio moved to approve the following minutes:

- Approval of 1/30/23 Executive Session Minutes
- 1.2 Approval of 1/30/23 Public Session Minutes
- 1.3 Approval of 3/14/23 Public Session Minutes

The trustees voted unanimously in approval.

Mr. Rieder asked for a motion to go into executive session. A motion was made to move to an executive session by Mr. Sleyster and seconded by Ms. Borowiec. The trustees voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:05pm to discuss legal and real estate matters.

At the end of the executive session, a motion was made by Mr. Verrilli and then seconded by Ms. Scipio to return to the public session. The trustees voted unanimously to return to the public session at 6:17 pm.

Mr. Peiser presented on the state of Uncommon. He updated the board on where we are with math and literacy achievement and how we plan to continue to improve them.

He let the board know that we currently have 97 alumni working at Uncommon. Highlighting Shatavia Knight and Desiree Koontz and their work at Black Rock, he showed the board how are alumni are feeling prepared for the working world.

Mr. Peiser then moved on to present about our twenty Posse and Quest Bridge winners and what their grants and scholarships look like.

He closed by diving into what the organizational priorities are for the 23.24 school year.

Mr. Stulberg then gave a College Access update. He talked about College Access as a program and changes that they have made. He then gave a specific update on the Class of 2023 using student videos to supplement his points.

Then he closed by grounding the board in the power of why we push students to college.

Mrs. Messer then presented the Personnel Report.

A motion was made by Mr. Verrilli and seconded by Mr. Evans to approve the personnel report. The trustees voted unanimously to approve.

Mrs. Messer then presented the following Finance and Facilities items to the board for approval:

- 3.1 Resolution to Adopt Revised Budget

A motion was made by Ms. Scipio and seconded by Mr. Verrilli to approve the finance and facilities items. The trustees voted unanimously to approve the financial resolutions.

Mrs. Messer shared Administrative Resolutions for board approval.

- 4.1 Harassment Intimidation & Bullying Report

A motion was made by Mr. Sleyster and seconded by Ms. Bearce to approve the administrative items. The trustees voted unanimously to approve the administrative resolutions and reports.

A motion was made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Ms. Z to uphold the recommendations of the Student Hearing Committee.

Mr. Reider opened the floor to public comments. No member of the public was present.

A motion was made to adjourn by Mr. Verrilli and seconded by Mr. Sleyster to adjourn the board of trustees meeting. The trustees voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:11 p.m.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING will be held on May 22nd at 18 Washington Place.