

**North Star Academy Charter School of Newark****Board of Trustees Meeting Public Session**Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 | 5:00 pm

via Zoom

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

*Also present: Sam Messer, Timeese Townes-Pratt, Jon Hillery, Mike Mann, Peggy Liao, Sarah Danzig, Christy Carvalho and Maya Roth Bisignano.*

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 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.

Ms. Scipio moved to approve the following minutes:

- *Approval of 9/26/23 Public Session Minutes*
- *Approval of 9/26/23 Executive 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 Ms. Scipio and seconded by Mr. Sleyster. The trustees voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:04pm to discuss legal and real estate matters.

At the end of the executive session, a motion was made by Ms. Scipio and then seconded by Mr. Verrilli to return to the public session. The trustees voted unanimously to return to the public session at 6:01 pm.

Mr. Bambrick-Santoyo presented an math activity to simulate how teachers are approaching the teaching of conceptual mathematics to students.

Ms. Messer and Mr. Bambrick-Santoyo then went on to review the Elementary School STEP data.

Ms. Messer and Mr. Bambrick-Santoyo then went on to review Interim Assessment Data with the board.

The action plan for math includes:

- Increased targeted interventions for small groups of students during math instructional and intervention blocks.
- Implement weekly accountability for focus schools grounded in the data and continue to provide network math PD for teachers and leaders.

The action plan for literacy includes:

- Hiring a new Manager of Content to work exclusively on Middle School ELA Instruction.
- Hold a State of Reading calls after assessments to address the data from the IA and observations.
- Focus the 12/14 Leader PD on ELA.
- Include addition lessons on key focus areas (close reading, textual analysis and grammar)
- Audit student work in focus areas weekly
- Place our strongest content teachers are teaching additional ELA block for struggling students.

Ms. Messer and Mr. Bambrick-Santoyo then went on to explain the Student Growth Percentile.

Ms. Messer and Mr. Bambrick-Santoyo presented the college application update so far. 91% of Students with a 2.8 unweighted GPA or higher applied early decision or Single Choice Early Action.

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

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

- *3.1 Resolution to Approve September and October Financial Reports*

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

Ms. Messer shared Administrative Resolutions for board approval. Ms. Messer suggested that the board table resolution 4.8, The Master Service Agreement with Uncommon Schools:

- 4.1 Resolution to Participate in NJSIAA
- 4.2 Approval of Anti-Opioid Policy
- 4.3 Approval of Contract with North Street School
- 4.4 Transportation Agreement with NRESC
- 4.5 HIB Report
- 4.6 Approval of the 22-23 HIB Self-Assessment
- 4.7 Approval to Apply for Minority Teacher Grant

A motion was made by Mr. Sleyster and seconded by Mr. Evans to approve the administrative items and to table 4.8. The trustees voted unanimously to approve the resolutions.

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

Mr. Reider opened the floor to public comments.

Cassandra Dock wanted an overview of what she missed from the meeting and to know when the next meeting was scheduled.

A motion was made to adjourn by Mr. Evans and seconded by Ms. Abuhatab to adjourn the board of trustees meeting. The trustees voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:00 p.m.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING will be held via **zoom on January 29th, 2024.**