

The Trustees in attendance: Paul Bambrick-Santoyo, Ezdehar Abuhatab, Nicole Bearce, Ann Borowiec, Steve Creekmur, Lawrence Evans, Trisha Scipio, Scott Sleyster, Jamey Verrilli and Nevaeh Fields.

Also present: Sam Messer, Timeese Townes-Pratt, Mike Mann, Brett Peiser, Juliana Worrell, John Powell and Jon Hillery.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Mr. Verilli, 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.

A motion was made by Ms. Scipio and seconded by Mr. Sleyster to approve the board members:

- *1.3 Appointment of Board Members for a Two- Year Term*

The trustees voted unanimously in approval.

A motion was made by Ms. Scipio and seconded by Ms. Bearce to approve the parent board reps:

- *1.4 Appointment of Parent Board Members for a One-Year Term*

The trustees voted unanimously in approval.

A motion was made by Ms. Scipio and seconded by Mr. Evans to approve the board members:

- *1.5 Resolution to Appoint Student Representative to the Board*

The trustees voted unanimously in approval.

Ms. Bearce moved to approve the following minutes. Mr. Scipio seconded the motion:

- Approval of 6/18/24 Public Session Minutes
- Approval of 6/18/24 Executive Session Minutes

The trustees voted unanimously in approval.

Ms. Messer introduced Nevaeh Fields to the board.

Mrs. Worrell presented on the state of North Star K-8. She let the board know that North Star Academy continues to be the highest performing network of schools in the city - consistently outperforming the local district and state averages in the vast majority of grades and subjects. Every elementary and middle school campus at North Star met or exceeded statewide averages in both ELA and math.

She then went on to let the board know that while our elementary schools are still amongst the strongest in the city and state, there is a need to improve learning acceleration efforts by incorporating phonics instruction in 3rd and 4th grade and increasing the amount of uninterrupted independent practice and discourse in ES Math.

Mr. Verilli 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 Mr. Evans. The trustees voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:36 pm to discuss legal matters.

At the end of the executive session, a motion was made by Mr. Verrilli and then seconded by Ms. Borowiec to return to the public session. The trustees voted unanimously to return to the public session at 7:40 pm.

A motion was made by Mr. Sleyster and seconded by Mr. Evans to approve the personnel reports. 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 June, July, August Financial Reports*
- *3.2 Resolution to Approve IDEA Application*
- *3.3 Resolution to Authorize the Use of Federal Funds for Employee Salaries: Final FY23 Adjustments*
- *3.4 Resolution to Approve Use of Federal Funds for Initial Employee Salaries*
- *3.5 Resolution to Approve Elementary and Secondary ESEA Consolidated Application*
- *3.6 NSA 13 Central - 2024 Bond - North Star Academy Authorizing Resolutions*
- *3.7 Resolution to Approve Submission of High Impact Tutoring Grant*

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

Ms. Messer shared Administrative Resolutions for board approval.

- *4.1 Union County ESC Tuition Contract 24.25*
- *4.2 Neurologist for North Star Academy*
- *4.3 Resolution to Approve Final Annual Report*
- *4.4 Resolution to join NJSIAA*
- *4.5- 4.8 Resolutions to Approve Out of District Placement Contracts*
- *4.9 Resolution to Approve Contract with Bergen County Hearing and Speech*

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

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

Mr. Bambrick-Santoyo opened the floor to public comments.

Vanesha Richardson thanked the board for allowing her 2nd grader to see what a board meeting looks like and what kind of meetings are happening surrounding her education. She then went on to let the board know that her child was getting homework marked incomplete because it was not completed on the designated day. She wanted to know if she could be offered a solution so that she could properly help her child with her homework while making sure that she is getting full credit for all of her work.

A motion was made to adjourn by Mr. Sleyster and seconded by Ms. Bearce to adjourn the board of trustees meeting. The trustees voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING will be held at **18 Washington Pl. on December 9th, 2024.**