



**MOTT HALL**  
CHARTER SCHOOL  
RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
**MOTT HALL CHARTER SCHOOL**

**May 20, 2013**

The monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees (the “**Board**” or “**BoT**”) of the Mott Hall Charter School (the “**MHCS**”), was held at Mott Hall Charter School, Annex of 1260 Franklin Avenue between 168th and 169th Street, Bronx, NY 10459 on May 20, 2013, beginning at approximately 5:30 p.m. local time pursuant to notice duly given.

The following Trustees were present in person at the meeting: **Brenda Bravo, Sarah Calderon, Xenia Cox, Peter Oroszlany, Charles Stern, Natalie Thompson, and Francesca Weindling.**

The following school staff members participated in person: **Bob Lesser, Executive Director of MHCS**

**Patrick Awosogba and David Tinagero** were absent from the meeting.

No parent(s) attended this meeting.

Sarah Calderon presided at this meeting and Natalie Thompson recorded the minutes as secretary.

After noting that a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order. Ms. Calderon reviewed the agenda and introduced the Fundraising Training, which was scheduled to be the bulk of the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. The training was conducted by Katherine DeFoyd, Founding Partner, Growth for Good- Building Strength in Organizations.

Charles Stern made a motion to move to executive session to discuss real estate and other school related activities. Motion was seconded by Francesca Weindling.

**Acknowledgement of the Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**

April 16, 2013 meeting minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved by the BoT.

**Executive Director Updates**



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- A. Board Packet Review - Mr. Lesser briefly reviewed the contents of the Board Packet. Packets were available prior to Board meetings.

Mr. Lesser reviewed the MHCS Long Term Suspension and Expulsion Policy. After review and discussion the BoT unanimously approved the policy.

Mr. Lesser posted the Board on Academic program. Progress with the academic program following the State test has been challenged by the need for increased administrator response to school discipline. A concerted effort is being made by all staff to remain consistent with student engagement and matters of discipline in order to maintain a positive learning environment.

The Friday schedule has been reworked to include remediation for 40 students with the greatest need in ELA and Mathematics while the remaining 67 students participate in enrichment lessons incorporating content with technology, foreign language, and physical education/fitness.

Mr. Lesser highlighted the efforts to build out the Professional Development and Curriculum, with particular focus on professional development in IB. MHCS will continue to use existing resources to plan and facilitate this PD. Curriculum with focus on the use of technology with curriculum resources.

The school has completed purchases of laptop devices in the last few weeks to begin the work of introducing 1-to-1 strategies to support the academic program. Online versions of text resources have been available throughout the year and now the use of these resources in classrooms can be further explored in preparation for the upcoming year. Some of the resources that we have found successful this year include i-Ready, Sumdog, my.hrw, Google Apps for Education, jupitergrades, Brain Pop, Learnzillion, Math Island, edhelper, Learn2Type, and mimio.

Transition Plan for Mr. Steward's, Principal of MHCS, is well underway. The interview process is well going well and will conclude after the BoT interviews final candidates.

Mr. Lesser posted on Parent Events for May. Workshop entitled "Free and Low Cost Summer Activities for Your Child" was held on May 14<sup>th</sup> and will be presented again on May 28<sup>th</sup>.



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The MHCS Spring Newsletter went out May 13<sup>th</sup> to almost 200 “Friends of Mott Hall Charter School”.

**Forward Agenda**

1. Annual Board Meeting June 18, 2013

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Natalie Thompson**  
Secretary

APPROVED:

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**Sarah Calderon**  
Chair