



MOTT HALL
CHARTER SCHOOL
RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE

MOTT HALL CHARTER SCHOOL

April 16, 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 April 16, 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, David Tinagero and Natalie Thompson.**

The following Trustees were present via phone: **Francesca Wiending.**

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

Patrick Awosogba and Charles Stern 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 thanked each board member for meeting with her to review and discuss the BoT performance. Ms. Calderon will give a more fulsome de-brief and share actionable outcomes at the next BoT meeting.

Acknowledgement of the Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

February 26, 2013 and March 19, 2013, meeting minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved by the BoT.

Executive Director Updates

- A. Board Fundraising Training will be conducted in May.



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- B. Board Packet Review - Mr. Lesser reviewed the contents of the Board Packet. Packets were available prior to Board meetings. Mr. Lesser gave brief updates on Operations, Finance and Fundraising, Staffing and Accountability.

Mr. Lesser posted the Board on Academic program. In addition to the regular curriculum, the school is engaged in explicit instruction and tracking of student progress in reading and problem solving for standardized testing. Students have completed the three-day cycle of state assessment in English language arts and mathematics. All staff participated in scoring of short and extended-response questions in ELA as well as constructed-response questions in mathematics. The item analysis was used to outline a daily test instruction schedule through the end of the New York State tests. Testing materials have been received.

The third quarter has ended and parent teacher conferences will be held May 3rd.

The Academics Task Force received a comprehensive task list on the MHCS instructional program as well as teacher evaluations and PD. The Task Force is reviewing and will respond over the next two weeks.

The Social and Emotional Health and Youth Development initiatives continue to be on-track. Mentoring and Counseling programs continue. The Life Skills Groups were challenging for the month of March as Test prep, interim assessments made meeting in weekly groups difficult. It is anticipated these challenges will continue as we gear up for testing next week. School Culture remains positive and Community Meetings (Sanctuary Tool) continue to happen daily in the classroom. Students are enhancing their emotional vocabulary. Challenges include time and space to allow these to happen in smaller groups.

Transition Plan has begun in preparation for Mr. Steward's, Principal of MHCS, resignation effective July 12, 2013. The Executive Team and staff have been notified of the transition. The new job description has been circulated, reviewed and approved by the Board and will be posted formally the last week in April. MHCS has already received 4 strong resumes and phone screenings are underway.



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Mr. Lesser and Ms. Cox posted the Board on New building contingency plan and presented three viable options for permanent space which includes looking at alternative spaces as well as working with the DOE on a lease-back arrangement with the DOE for our current space or permanent space in a DOE building less than 1 mile from our current location. The Bot supported this action and will review pending upcoming meetings with the DOB.

MHCS next parent workshop will be on April 29 from 6-7:30 pm. The session on Personal Finance and Saving for College will be hosted by Chase.

Forward Agenda

1. Fundraising Training
2. BoT Performance Update and Next Steps
3. Board Packet Review

Adjournment

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

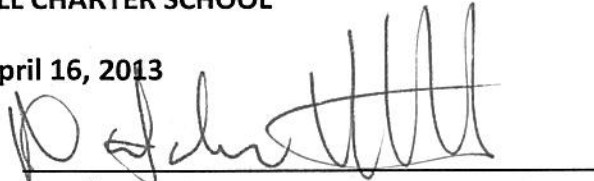
Respectfully submitted,



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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natalie Thompson', written over a horizontal line.

Natalie Thompson
Secretary

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Calderon', written over a horizontal line.

Sarah Calderon
Chair