



MOTT HALL CHARTER SCHOOL

RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes May 25th, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees (the “Board” or “BoT”) of the Mott Hall Charter School (the “MHCS”) was held on the above date beginning at 5:38 p.m. local time pursuant to notice duly given.

Attendance

- The following Trustees were present: Natalie Thompson (Video Conference), Sandra Lugo (Video Conference), Kevin Murungi (Video Conference), Francesca Weindling (Video Conference), Dr. Patrick Awosogba (Video Conference), Luis Quan (Video Conference), and Don Mabrey (Video Conference).
- The following Trustees were absent: Karen Bhatia and Jason Caldwell.

The following school staff and guests were present: Connie Lobdell, Principal and Executive Director; Yvette Colon, Director of Operations (DOO); and Josh Moreau, Financial Consultant; Parent of Kadaysia Morton; and Keisha Edwards, Teacher.

Call to Order, Public Comment and Board Discussion

- After noting that a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 5:39 p.m.
- Public comments:
 - Keisha Edwards:
 - Concerned with lack of space.
 - Difficulty teaching in allocated space, usually by boiler room.
 - Treated rudely by custodian.
 - Was told her to remove her supplies from area.
 - Custodian does not maintain school clean.
 - Loves Mott Hall but the lack of space makes it difficult to teach.
 - Students are unhappy.
 - School furniture not adequate.
 - Concerned and wants to make improvements but needs help.
 - Parent of Kadaysia Morton:
 - Feels that Mott Hall is a pretty good school but doesn't like that the 7th grade girls have no outlet.
 - There should be more one on one for the girls.
 - Concerned when the boys exert their power over the black girls.
 - Girls have a voice and they need to be listened to.
 - Some have mental issues.
 - Students need to be shown the way, and not disrespect the female students.
 - Adults in the school need to address the needs of the students in the present, keep up with the changes, and listen to students.
 - Connie Lobdell:
 - Responded to parent regarding providing support, mental health and social emotional (SE) support for students.

- Empowering the students and holding the school accountable.
 - Luis Quan:
 - G.E.M.S. program available which empowers black girls.
 - G.E.M.S. – encourages girls to seek and celebrate their individuality by giving them a safe space, encouragement, structure, and support.
 - Will provide information regarding program.
- No further public comments, public exited and Board addressed agenda.
- Josh Moreau:
 - Accountability Dashboard
 - Review of 2023-2024 budget for approval at next Board meeting
 - Salaries for 2023-2024
- Yvette Colon:
 - Reviewed Accountability Dashboard
 - Enrollment at 225
 - Staff attendance – 95%
 - Presented spreadsheet with status of students going to high school
 - ESSER – programs covered: After School, Enrichment Program
 - Date for annual Board meeting: Wednesday, June 21st, 2023
 - In person
 - Staff wants to join annual meeting to share their concern regarding class size due to staff shortage
- Natalie Thompson:
 - Approval of April 20th, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes.
 - Need to immediately address the boiler room usage by a teacher which is a fire hazard and has been going on for 10 years
 - Dr. Awosogba:
 - Need to look at space school is in
 - Need additional space
 - School cannot continue to under dirty conditions and inappropriate spaces
 - Facilities Task Force and Feasibility Study for a move
 - Connie Lobdell:
 - There is state approval for moving to another district
 - At annual meeting:
 - Natalie Thompson will be stepping down as Chairperson after many years of service on the Board, and was one of the founding members of the Mott Hall Charter School
 - New Chairperson will be Karen Bhatia
 - Sandra Lugo to continue as Secretary
 - Executive Committee
 - Finance Committee
- Connie Lobdell:
 - Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is a big priority for next year
 - Partnered with L.I.U.
 - Graduation
 - Saturday, June 17th, 2023
 - Invitations sent to Board members
 - Guest speaker – Joanna from last year

Board Motions and Approvals

1. Motion to approve April 20th, 2023 minutes made by Francesca Weindling, and seconded by Luis Quan - Board reviewed and unanimously approved.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Lugo, Secretary

APPROVED:

Sandra Lugo

Name



Signature

June 21st, 2023

Date

All trustee meetings for Mott Hall Charter School are open meetings subject to the NYS open meetings law. While we encourage public participation and provide a designated time for public comment, individuals are limited to two minutes total of public comment each, unless the Board asks for additional feedback. All trustees and members of the public must abide by norms around professionalism and civility in their comments. Complaints against a specific employee or public comments that may reveal confidential information will, consistent with the open meetings law, be handled through our dispute resolution process or may be heard in executive session.