

Mariana Bracetti Academy Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting
6:00 PM, May 4, 2016
1840 Torresdale Avenue – Philadelphia, PA 19124

Executive Session was held at 5:30 PM to discuss a pending student matter. The public meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Present: Arlene Holtz, Jenee Chizick-Aguero, Carrie Nase-Poust, Carmen Cruz (via phone), Tara Smith

Not Present: Jorge Santiago, Elisa Rodriguez-Roche, Tara Buckley, Tracy-Elizabeth Clay

I. Routine Business

a. Approval of 4/6/2016 Minutes

Tara Smith motions to approve the 4/6/2016 minutes. *Carrie Nase-Poust seconds the motion, all vote in favor.*

Motion: Tara Smith

Ayes: AH, JCA, CNP, CC, TS

Second: Carrie Nase-Poust

Nays: None

II. Action Items

a. Approval of Student Expulsions

The hearing officer, Carrie Nase-Poust, presents her recommendations for expulsion.

- i.** Arlene Holtz moves to approve the recommendation of the hearing officer and place student 7529861 on a behavioral contract. *Tara Smith seconds the motion, all vote in favor.*

Motion: Carrie Nase-Poust

Ayes: AH, JCA, CNP, CC, TS

Second: Tara Smith

Nays: None

- ii.** Arlene Holtz moves approve the recommendation of the hearing officer and place student 7272737 on a behavioral contract. *Tara Smith seconds the motion, all vote in favor.*

Motion: Arlene Holtz

Ayes: AH, JCA, CNP, CC, TS

Second: Tara Smith

Nays: None

- iii.** Student 6364703 – The expulsion hearing was rescheduled. **TABLED.**

b. Approval of Staffing Report – Removed from Agenda

c. Approval of Staff Handbook/HR Manual Update

The board discusses the additions to the Staff Handbook, and determines date changes, numbering changes, and the addition of language regarding Homeless Education Assistance in section 18 are all appropriate. The additions under the Rules of Conduct regarding staff/student interaction on social media require further discussion and will not be approved.

Arlene Holtz moves to approve the Staff Handbook/HR Manual Update to include date changes, numbering changes, and the addition of section 18 stating language regarding Homeless Education Assistance. Tara Smtih seconds the motion, all vote in favor.

Motion: Arlene Holtz
Ayes: AH, JCA, CNP, CC, TS

Second: Tara Smith
Nays: None

d. Approval of Updated ESL Policy

The school's ESL Policy was updated to explicitly state that all screening of potential ESL students will be completed within 30 days of enrollment or the first day of school

Tara Smith moves to approve the Updated ESL Policy. *Jenee Chizick seconds the motion, all vote in favor.*

Motion: Tara Smith
Ayes: AH, JCA, CNP, CC, TS

Second: Jenee Chizick
Nays: None

e. Approval of PowerSchool Renewal

Jenee Chizick moves to approve the renewal of PowerSchool for one calendar year in the amount of \$10,664.80. *Tara Smith seconds the motion, all vote in favor.*

Motion: Jenee Chizick
Ayes: AH, JCA, CNP, CC, TS

Second: Tara Smith
Nays: None

f. Approval of Amended Agenda

Arlene Holtz moves to amend the agenda to move informational item VI.a. before Oral Reports. *Tara Smith seconds the motion, all vote in favor.*

Motion: Arlene Holtz
Ayes: AH, JCA, CNP, CC, TS

Second: Tara Smith
Nays: None

III. Informational Items

Jenee Chizick reports out on the Keystone Alliance Conference which was held in March. The conference covered board governance, school management, and special education law.

IV. Oral Reports

a. Community Relations

Tony Alvarez presents a slideshow of school and community events.

b. Achievement

Mary Jo Witkowski-Smith presents an update on the conclusion of PSSA testing. Jana Somma presents the data from Benchmark #4. Andrew Boglioli presents an overview of summer school. MBA is again partnering with Teach for America to provide summer school.

c. Enrollment and Attendance

Angela Villani presents the Enrollment and Attendance report. Current enrollment is at 1,191 students, and year-to-date attendance is 91.57%.

d. Discipline

Andrew Boglioli presents the Discipline Report. There were 20 suspensions in April, down from 24 in April 2015. There were 73 in-school suspensions in April, down from 85 in April 2015.

e. Budget to Actuals

Ron Nordmeyer presents the March 2016 Financial Operation Report. Since last month, PDE has announced new District rates for the current year, which will result in \$272,000 loss. PDE will still release the Lease Reimbursement subsidy and the Ready to Learn grant. With these three factors, the budget is down \$168,000. There was an increase in special education special services and legal service. The budget is currently projecting a deficit of \$331,000.

V. Public Comment

Angela Villani states that included in the board packet is a copy of the PA Sunshine Law for all board members to review.

Tara Smith motions to adjourn the meeting. *Carrie Nase-Poust seconds the motion, all vote in favor.*

The meeting is adjourned.