



Believe, Achieve, Succeed

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

The Eugenio María de Hostos Charter School Board of Trustees met virtually on Tuesday, June 30, 2020. Board Chairman, Mr. Julio Vázquez, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Quorum was established.

Board Members Present: Julio Vázquez, Connie O. Walker, Miguel Meléndez, Jr, Angélica Pérez-Delgado, Dr. Marcia DeJesús-Rueff, Ray Ciccarelli, Eugenio Marlin, and Robert Frasier Jr.

Board Members Absent: Marilyn Cotton and Jomara Rivas.

School Staff Present: John Harris, Dr. Florencio Del Valle, Wellinthon Muñoz, Dr. German Lopez, Sherley Flores, Robert Zimmerli, Dr. Sabrina Nudo, and Maria Petrella.

Other: Dr. Miriam Vázquez

MISSION MOMENT

Sport Award

Eugenio Maria de Hostos Charter School athletic program received an Award of Excellence For Exemplary Display of Sportsmanship, Ethics, and Integrity.

Seal of Biliteracy

Sixteen high school seniors obtained the Seal of Biliteracy.

CHAIRMAN REPORT

Board Retreat

Social justice and action were discussed at the board retreat. All the board members had an opportunity to share, and suggestions were made. Mr. Vázquez wishes for the Academic Committee to further discuss and incorporate the recommendations into the curriculum. Discussions have been occurring during the Executive Leadership Meetings.

Organizational Structure

The ByLaws need to be amended to show the following changes in positions at the school. The Board Chair will strictly be Board Chair, and the Executive Director will become Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the school.

Evaluation Process for CEO

A rubric will be created for evaluating the CEO. The CEO will meet quarterly with the board and work closely with the Board Chair. Another retreat will be held to go over the process for evaluating and hiring the new CEO. Dr. Miriam Vázquez will be Interim Executive Director until CEO is appointed. The next board retreat will take place on Tuesday, July 7.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Enrollment

Dr. Vázquez shared the current student enrollment and the projected student enrollment as of Friday, June 26. The school is currently showing 941 students enrolled. There are 108 new applicants. The school will over enroll to compensate for the loss of students over the summer break. During the past couple of years, the school will lose 20% of students in grades K-5 grades and 5% in the higher grades.

Recruitment Efforts

The school is making several recruitment efforts to increase enrollment, such as sharing postings on social media, encourage parents to give the school 5-star ratings on google review, two radio interviews per week at Poder 97.1. Bumper and decals have been ordered for the board and staff members to showcase their vehicles, and invitations were sent to parents of Rochester City School District (RCSD) students that their schools closed.

Spring Parent Satisfaction Survey

The school received a 22% response rate from families. 90% of families stated they feel welcomed and safe at EMHCS. 87% of families say that administrators respond to their emails on time, and 84% of parents indicate that teachers respond to their emails on time. 84% of parents are satisfied with EMHCS as being their school of choice. The comments on the survey focused on communication. Parents wish to see more communication from teachers about their child's behavior and academic concerns and timely notices on meetings and events.

Virtual Learning Survey

93 out of 607 families responded to the survey. According to the survey, the most difficult for parents during virtual learning was their child's schedule. Many parents worked and were not available to ensure their child was attending lessons, especially in younger students. 16% of parents had difficulty with internet service – slow internet service due to having multiple students, and parents working from home, 19% not enough devices at home, 27% getting responses from teachers, 23% were accessing resources (there were so many resources). Comments parents stated that things were getting more manageable for them to maneuver. Overall what was the overall experience with virtual learning – the results were positive.

Staffing Updates

The school currently has nine vacancies. There are two vacancies, and nine staff members not invited back due to performance.

Communication/Marketing Plan

The plan will consist of publications, media relations, community relations, school-wide technology communication tools, and maintain branding consistency throughout.

Academic Director

Dr. Nudo shared the academic focus is curriculum, assessments, at-risk students, and professional development. K-8 will run from July 6 – July 31. ELA and Math will be taught daily. Grades 9-12 will run from July 6 – August 14. The high school will offer virtual summer school for juniors and seniors that need credit recovery.

Mr. Harris discussed the operations reentry plan, explaining each component: hygienic protocols, promoting social distancing, and monitoring protocols.

All PPE equipment has been ordered, and signage will be posted throughout each campus in English/Spanish.

Ms. Flores reported student engagement at the elementary level varied throughout the months due to conversations over retention and other various factors. Parents started submitting student work. Academic Progress Data of students meeting/exceeding standards. There were no assessments, and academic progress data was based on assignments. There is a total of 28 students that will be retained with the consent of the parents.

Mr. Zimmerli reported that 76% of the 6-8 grade students are engaged in their school work for May and 76% for June. 61% are performing at standard for the fourth quarter. 96% of students are promoted to the next grade level; 7 students are being retained. 100% of students received the Algebra credit, and 80% of students received their Living Environment credit.

Mr. Muñoz reported that 90% of the 9-12 grade students are engaged in their school work for May and 88% in June. He shared that 71% of students earned Honor Roll, 26 with High Honor Roll with Distinction, and 22 with High Honor Roll and 23 Honor Roll. 65% of current juniors are on track for on-time graduation; 26 are on track, and 14 are off track due to credits and regents. Summer school is available for 11th and 12th graders only for credit recovery. Thirty-three students will be graduating on time, and two students will graduate in August for a projected graduation rate of 85%.

Dr. Lopez shared 48% of students will receive the Seal of Biliteracy. 20% of kindergarten, 20% of 3rd grade, and 15% of 5th-grade students were recipients of a Seal of Biliteracy to Pathway Award. During the fourth quarter, SLA/WL data indicates that most students K-12 remained engaged, showing 69% in May and 55% in June and that 44% in May and 38% in June of the ENL students were engaged. Check Point A for the middle school is at 80%, and the high school is at 96%. Check Point B is 98%, and Check Point C is 92% at the high school.

Ms. Petrella reported that 84% of the K-12 Special Ed was engaged for May and 80% for June and 89% accomplished their IEP goals. Progress for intervention at the beginning of the Fall, 68% of students in need of intervention. By March, only 54% of students needed intervention. 24% met their goal and moved back to Tier 1, 70% of students are making progress, and only 6% moved to Tier 3.

Mr. Alexander shared that for May and June, there was 0% engagement. When parents were contacted, parents informed them that they were focusing on the school's instructional/academic piece and not the extended day activities. Summer fun programming has been exempt due to the decrease in student engagement.

Academic Committee

Dr. DeJesús-Rueff recommended more online live lessons from teachers in the Fall, depending on what the government will accept. Classes will need to split into smaller groups. She also said communication is critical. The school must communicate with families to ensure that students are engaging.

Chief Financial Officer Report/Finance Committee Report:

The proposal for the use of facilities for athletics was reviewed – more discussion is needed. The finances have been reviewed with the CFO. 2020-2021 budget is in place for the new school year. Dr. Del Valle reviewed the balance sheet and income statement for May 2020 with the board. Please see attached financial documents.

ACTION ITEMS

The Board May meeting minutes were presented for approval. Mr. Vázquez called for a motion to accept the minutes. Dr. DeJesús-Rueff moved the motion, and Mr. Ciccarelli seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Tuition and Reimbursement Policy was presented for approval. Mr. Vázquez called for a motion to accept the policy. Dr. DeJesús-Rueff moved the motion, Mr. Ciccarelli seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Distant Learning Policy was presented for approval. Mr. Vázquez called for a motion to accept the policy. Ms. Pérez-Delgado moved the motion, Dr. DeJesús-Rueff seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Volunteer Policy was presented for approval. Mr. Vázquez called for a motion to accept the policy. Mr. Meléndez moved the motion, Mr. Ciccarelli seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

The 2020-2021 School Calendar was presented for approval. Mr. Vázquez called for a motion to accept the calendar. Dr. DeJesús-Rueff moved the motion, Mr. Ciccarelli seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Parent Communication Policy was presented for approval. Mr. Vázquez called for a motion to accept the policy. Ms. Pérez-Delgado moved the motion, Dr. DeJesús-Rueff seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building Committee

Mr. Meléndez reported the middle school build-out would begin soon. LaBella has approximately 60 days for construction until school begins. A meeting will be scheduled to discuss a possible site near the Zimbrich Campus.

Nominating Committee

Mr. Marlin reported that the committee would meet to discuss the possibility of amending the By-Laws to reduce the number of members ensuring quorum is met. A draft of the amended bylaws has been shared with the board. Mr. Marlin wishes for the board to review and provide feedback. To pass the amended By-Laws, 2/3 of the board members need to be present.

Old Business

No old business to discuss.

New Business:

The contract for Dr. Vazquez needs to be extended. Dr. Vázquez will be Interim Executive Director until a CEO is hired.

Executive Session

Mr. Vázquez requested a motion to go into Executive Session. Ms. Walker motioned, and Mr. Ciccarelli seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Marlin requested a motion to approve the replacement of Dr. Vázquez's consulting contract to the interim executive director contract for a period of 6 months with the option to extend if

needed. Ms. Pérez-Delgado motioned, and Mr. Ciccarelli seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. DeJesús-Rueff moved to adjourn the Executive Session. Ms. Walker seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ms. Pérez-Delgado requested a motion to adjourn the board meeting. Mr. Ciccarelli seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

With no more business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Board Meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 28, 2020, virtually. The invite will be sent to all board members and posted on the school's website with the link for attending.

Respectfully submitted,

Angélica Pérez-Delgado
Board Secretary