



ATMOSPHERE ACADEMY

Educating Your Bright Stars

Atmosphere Academy Public Charter Schools
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
November 28, 2018

Atmosphere Academy Charter School
22 Marble Hill Avenue
Meeting at 5959 Broadway
New York, New York 10463

Board Members Attending:

Mr. Alan Dillon
Mr. Mervin Burton
Dr. Michael Lagas
Mr. James Spitzer
Mr. Jesse J. Greene, Jr.

Board Members Absent:

Dr. Evan Powderly

Others in Attendance:

Mr. Colin J. Greene
Mr. Christian Roman
Mr. Bryan Fryer
Mr. Peter Markey

Agenda Item 1. Call to order.

At approximately 5:12 PM the meeting was called to order by Dr. Lagas.

Agenda Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Lagas led the Pledge of Allegiance .

Agenda Item 3. Board Reports.

Mr. J. Greene and Mr. Bryan Fryer reported on the Finance Committee call of November 21, 2018. They reported that the committee discussed the cash flow planning, debt levels and needs, bonus funding plan and budget trends of the school at the recent call.

Agenda Item 4. Comments from the Public

There were no general public comments.

Agenda Item 5. Revision and Adoption of the Agenda

The original agenda was adopted by the board.

By motion of the board to adopt the Agenda.

Vote Aye: M. Burton, J. Greene, M. Lagas, A. Dillon

Nays: none

Agenda Item 6.1. Finance Update

Mr. Fryer reported on the financial performance of the school. He reviewed the Statement of Activity report and the Statement of Financial Position report. He explained that the school was waiting for grants to be paid and that it had started paying rent on the new space at 5959 Broadway. These two events put pressure on the cash flow of the school. Mr. C. Greene noted that the Department of Education had agreed to make an advance payment of rent reimbursement on or about December 15 which would help the situation. Mr. Fryer noted that the school was close to the planned budget for the year at this point. Mr. J. Greene led an extensive discussion of long term cash flow planning and how a tool was being developed to refine that work.

Agenda Item 6.2. Usage Request

Mr. Christian Roman presented an opportunity for either a sublease of the gym at 3700 Independence Avenue to another school, or a partnership to share student experiences. The board discussed the pros and cons of each but supported this subject to review of the lease terms, agreement of the landlord, insurance coverage from the other school, agreed liability acceptance by the other school and proper supervision plan in place. The landlord has given approval and left the decision to proceed with Atmosphere.

Agenda Item 6.3. Board Meeting Minutes.

The minutes from the October 2018 meeting were sent to the board before the meeting. They were adopted without revision.

By motion of the board to adopt the October 2018 Minutes.

Vote Aye: M. Burton, A. Dillon, J. Greene, M. Lagas, J. Spitzer.
Nays: none

The Board also discussed the next meeting date, and December 17, 2018 was selected.

Agenda Item 6.4. Charter Revision

Mr. C. Greene reviewed plans to ask for a Charter revision for expanding the school. The plan reviewed an expansion to 600 students from the current 410, starting in the fall of 2019. Mr. Greene reviewed the space available for the expansion, which is substantial, the student grade performance of the school, which has been very strong, the proven ability of the school to manage growth, the financial budget plan and the positive culture the school has created. All elements support expansion. Hiring plans for the expansion were also reviewed.

Agenda Item 6.5. Student Test Results

Mr. C. Greene reviewed the student test results with the board. These results will be included with the expansion plan submitted to the State University of New York. He went student by student with the board. The results showed strong improvement year to year. He also noted the improving basic proficiency of entering students which is a sign of the desirability of the Atmosphere culture and performance.

He also discussed the intervention program and ideas to further assist students using current staff.

Staff training, development, improved performance plans and new hire criteria refinement were also discussed.

Agenda Item 7. Consent Agenda

There were no consent agenda items.

Agenda Item 8 through 11. Executive Session

There was no executive session at this meeting.

Agenda Item 12. Unfinished Business.

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There was no unfinished business.

Agenda Item 13. New Business.

There was no new business.

Agenda Item 11. Adjournment.

At 7:46PM the board voted to adjourn.

By motion of the board to adjourn.

Vote Aye: M. Burton, J. Greene, Dillon, M. Lagas, J. Spitzer
Nays: none.