



Meeting of the Board of Trustees
December 15th, 2020, 6:00 pm
Meeting Minutes

1. Roll call/sign in

Trustees Sona Karia (Chair), George Sarkissian (Vice Chair), Latoya Massey (Treasurer), Ramon Perdomo (Secretary), Gicele Adon, Jaynemie Angbah, Tavannie Perez, were present, constituting a quorum. The meeting was conducted via Zoom video-conference, pursuant to the Governor's emergency regulations, at a virtual location open to the public, and designated on the Notice of Meeting.

2. Filing of Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the law, a notice of the meeting was published on the school's website, sent via email to the New York Times and posted publicly on the Innovation High School Website. Physical posting at the school was not possible because Innovation is not physically present in the school building.

3. Consent Agenda (5 minutes, ED)

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes (10/22 and 11/17)

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adopt the meeting minutes from the Board Meetings held on October 22nd and November 17th respectively.

4. Accountability Dashboard (20 minutes, SMT/Assoc. Dir. of Strategic Planning)

a. Enrollment Update

Pablo Torres, Director of Student Affairs and FCE, reported that enrollment is currently at 397 students. Mr. Torres states that the school is continuing to work with Schola as it has continued to produce leads. Mr. Torres discussed the leads generated from Schola for next year, as most students are not looking to switch schools mid-year. In January Mr. Torres and the Enrollment Team will meet to discuss the strategic plan for the upcoming enrollment activities to fill seats for 2022 school year.

b. Fall Academic Performance

Terence Joseph, Principal, stated that students' performance is being measured by analyzing pass/fail rates during the marking periods. Mr. Joseph noted that elective courses are facilitated better in-person because they depend more heavily on in-person social interaction. Also, students are prioritizing their core classes, and giving less attention to electives. Mr. Joseph also noted that the Attendance, Counseling, Discipline, and Family Engagement teams have worked cooperatively to identify and support students with social emotional and academic issues.

c. Academic Policy Adjustments

Mr. Joseph stated that a review had occurred of the academic grading policy, which had weighted asynchronous assignments more heavily than synchronous assignments. Moving forward, synchronous assignment grades will be given more weight, because teachers perform more accurate evaluations of student performance during synchronous class sessions.

5. Charter Renewal Update (5 minutes, ED)

Mr. Falla Riff, the E.D., provided an update on the efforts being made, following the submission of Innovation's charter renewal application, to obtain a five year renewal for Innovation, including the engagement of elected officials and authorizers.

6. School Reopening Plan (15 minutes, Acting Chair & ED)

Mr. Joseph says that Innovation will not open in January because we anticipate that COVID-19 rates will rise during the holiday season Innovation staff will not enter the building until early March. Mr. Falla Riff described the COVID-19 New York City Zone criteria and its impact on Innovation's reopening plan, as well as Innovation's stock of Personal Protective Equipment and safety logistics.

7. Board Retreat

Ms. Karia discusses Board Retreat planning. Mr. Torres asked about the rationale for not having a member of the school staff at the Board Retreat. Ms. Karia noted that the retreat is focused on the board and on governance, as well as how Board Trustees can effectively communicate and collaborate in between meetings. The retreat will be split into two sessions.

8. Public Speaking (5 minutes)

No one requested the floor to engage in public speaking

9. Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.