

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes **Tuesday, February 25, 2020**

Members present: Olubunmi Eigli, Manu Bhagavan, Richard T. Boyle, Jeanette Betancourt

Also present from the team: Jeffrey Aler, Mark Crusante, Lucille Ranchor, Randi Berry, Dechelle Damien, Karrine Montague, Cathy Crews, Brian Ferguson, Tabitha Daye

Meeting called to order at: 7:15pm

1) Roll Call

2) CEO Report: Admissions & Enrollment: Continue to spread the work and brand of OWNCS in both OWN1 & OWN2.

- Special Education event to be held on March 5th at OWN1. Ms. Mikanda & Ms. Katsifarakis spearheading.
- Canvassed Howard Beach. Went to Libraries, Pre-K, Woodhaven & Crossbay Blvd's.
- Ads on Iheart Radio, Queens Chronical, & Queens Parent.
- Attending Community Board Meetings. Upcoming Community Board Meetings in March with district 9 & 10.
- 280 Applications for OWN2. 172 of these applications are for kindergarten. The rest are for the 1 & 4th grades.
- Over 1000 applications for OWN1.
- Current enrollment: 900 between ES, MS & Howard Beach.
- 720 at OWN1-ES/MS, 180 at OWN2.
- Virtual tour of OWN2 to be placed on school's website.
- Radio advertisements – Meet the CEO & What is a Charter School? To be held in March and April.

Policy Issues: State University of New York Charter Schools Institute documents.

- Renewal Benchmarks - OWNCS will review document. Put necessary paperwork in order to ensure OWNCS is on track and will share progress with the board of trustees.
- Accountability Dossier – Comparative Performance Analysis, New York State English Language Arts Examination and Mathematics Examination. OWNCS size effect is higher than expected.
- OWNCS is a school in good standing, (OWN1 & 2).

H.R.: Little Bird H.R: OWNCS is transitioning from Extensis to Little Bird H.R.

- Roll out to Little Bird takes effect April 1, 2020.
- Health care, dental & vision plans will now be under Blue Cross/Blue Shield, (Gold and Platinum plans are going to be offered).
- Little Bird will give employees \$500.00 towards medical costs for joining.

Payroll transition: OWNCS will move to Paylocity

- Paylocity has a 360 integration, which will help in OWNCS' 401K management.
- Benefit and open enrollment seminars scheduled for March.

H.R.: Little Bird H.R.: 4/5 Little Bird reps will come to OWN1-ES & MS on March 12th, & OWN2 on March 11th.

- OWNCS employees will receive their login information for Little Bird.

Jazz H.R.: New recruiting system.

- Implemented by Mr. Aler.
- System will help in the recruiting process.
- OWNCS' advertisements are done through this new system.

3) **Facilities: RFP:** Letters submitted on the 2/14/20. Response received by 2/19/20.

- 20-year lease proposed - base rent \$35.00 per square foot. 1.6 mil. a year.
- Restricted rate- 5-year lease, with a 5-year option. \$850,000.00 base rent a year.
- OWNCS to countering 2/26/20.
- Lease negotiations for the middle school has begun.
- Landlord has offered space for OWN2 middle school. Will be ready in Sept. 2020.

- No current update for OWN3. OWNCS is in status.

PTO allowed to notify parents that the RFP was submitted. OWN1 has gotten a positive response, and that the school is engaged in the process of fighting having to pay market value or above for space.

4) **PTO: Spirit Week:** Beginning 3/2/20 – 3/6/20. ES the only participants this time.

- Meeting with middle school lead teachers Thursday, 3/5/20 to discuss other spirit raising activities.
- Craft Fair to be held 3/7/20 by K-2. Community building event.
- Testing breakfasts: ELA tests on 3/25/20 & 3/26/20. Parents volunteer
- Book fair collaboration with Astoria Book Shop.

PTO Meeting: March 6, 2020 two former parents who've participated in the Better Chance Program will do a presentation about services available.

- Teacher spotlight chosen for auction. Ms. Guridis from the middle school.
- Community Ask: Buy a Day in the Science Lab, on 23rd Street.
 - Tom's Pet Store off 21st of Street, donated a gift card, and has **free Saturday's**. Every Saturday at 12:00 kids can come in and learn about the animals. Pet store offers aquarium set up, they will maintains tank and pick up tank at the end of the school year. Pet store may also provide a pet/child interaction service where they bring pets to school.

OWNCS Auction: Will be held Friday, March 27, 2020 from 6-10pm.

- Online Auction starts 3/13/20.
- Deadline for donations is 3/6/20. A publisher at Penguin Workshop donated "Meet the Student." Students will be given a bag of Who Was books and shown how to write a book. A sesame basket and Alvin Alley tickets also donated.

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:30pm