



ASPIRA OF DELAWARE CHARTER
OPERATIONS, INC.

REGULAR MEETING
BOARD MEETING MINUTES: ASPIRA OF DELAWARE
CHARTER OPERATIONS INC. (ADCO)

DATE: 6/27/2013

LOCATION: Conference Room
Las Americas ASPIRA Academy (LAAA) Charter School
326 Ruthar Drive, Newark DE 19711-8017

Directors Present: John Laznik, Jamie “Gus” Rivera (Chair), EJ Bley, Daniel Segui, Lourdes Puig (Future Chair), Jorge Diaz, Maribeth Welch
Directors Absent:, Lilia Meredith, Aaron Goldstein
Others Present: Greg Panchisin (Business Manager), Margie Lopez-Waite (Head of School)
Delaware Charter Schools Network: Kendall Massett (Executive Director), Chuck Taylor (Board President), Erik Schramm (Consultant-Parent Outreach), Carlos Ramos (Leadership for Education Equity)
Future Meetings Dates: 8/22, 9/26, 10/24 (Annual Meeting), 11/21

Call to Order

Gus Rivera called the public session to order at 6:10PM. He noted that there were seven voting-eligible Directors present and that a quorum was established. References hereunder to “unanimous” actions of the board refer to the actions of the seven present voting-eligible Directors.

Introductions:

Barbara Teter was hired as part-time Development Manager.

- Presented Development Planning for the Future

Jorge Diaz was introduced as new Board Treasurer.

- Financial advisor for Morgan Stanley

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the May 23, 2013 Board Meeting were presented and reviewed. Puig presented a motion to accept the May Meeting Minutes as presented which was seconded by Segui. The motion to approve the minutes was approved by unanimous vote of the Board.

Delaware Charter Schools Network *as reported by Kendall Massett (DCSN-Executive Director)*

Made up of 21 schools as of June 2013 and 10,439 students for 2012-13 school year.

- HB 165 passed this past legislative session
 - Charter schools now get 100% minor capital funding
 - Charter renewal simplified
 - Board training requirement

Head of School Report *as reported by Margie Lopez-Waite*

Margie presented information regarding:

School administration

- 1) Staff Recruitment Update – offers have been extended for incoming teachers
 - Three positions remain (ELL teacher, KG teacher and KG paraprofessional)
 - Six incoming teachers are first year teachers
 - All teachers hired are highly qualified

- 2) Salary schedule approval
 - Tier level approach (Year 1 staff 90%, Year 2 Staff 92%, Year 3 staff 94%)

Enrollment

- 3) Currently 430
- 4) Waiting list K(130), 1st(83), 2nd(58), 3rd(61), 4th(38), 5th(48), 6th(53), 7th(21) = 492 total
- 5) New student orientation occurred in May (71% attendance)
- 6) Second orientation in June (100% attendance)
- 7) New student assessments will occur on August 12th, 13th and 14th

Parent Teacher Communication

Agenda books will be provided to all students in 2nd – 7th grades before the start of 2013-14 school year

DCAS Results

- 1) Proficiency growth
- 2) Instructional scale growth
- 3) DCAS Projections

Strategies to improve student achievement

- 1) Instructional leadership (Lead teachers for each core subject (ELA, Math, Science, SS))
- 2) Reading instruction (Lucy Calkin's Reading and Writing Workshop strategies)
- 3) Math instruction (Singapore Math / K-3)
- 4) Staffing

Finance Committee Report (FOC) *as reported by Greg Panchisin (Business Manager)*

Greg reviewed the May monthly financial report as approved by the FOC and provided an update on the FOC. Actual to budget remains favorable. Several questions were raised and answered. Full report is available on the FOC portion of www.aspiracademy.org. A motion by Laznik, seconded by Blied that the ADCO Board accept the May 2013 Monthly Financial Report as presented. Final resolution was unanimous.

Development Committee Report

Introduction letter sent to Marmot Foundation (response was they do not support charter schools)

Facility Report *as reported by Gus Rivera (Chairperson of the Board of Directors)*

Closing on financial loan will occur on 6/28/13.

Old Business

ADCO Fall Retreat *as reported by Lourdes Puig*

Initial discussion of retreat took place. Preliminary date September 27th & 28th

School Financial Audit

Tabled. E-mail will be sent with update.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:40PM.