

**New Dawn Charter Schools Board of Trustees
November 22, 2022
11:00 a.m.: Board Meeting**

**New Dawn Charter High School
242 Hoyt Street
Brooklyn, NY 11217**

**New Dawn Charter High School II
89-25 161st Street
Jamaica, NY 11432
347-505-9101**

Board Members present: Mr. Ronald Tabano, Chairperson, Ms. Jane Sun, Vice Chair, Mr. Brian Baer, Secretary, Ms. Katharine Urbati, Treasurer

Board Members Absent: Jonathon Carrington, Member

Staff Members/ Visitors Present: Dr. Lisa DiGaudio, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Mr. Jose Obregon, Director of Operations, Ms. Nazli Askin, Director of Student Support Services, Ms. Emily Predmore, Data Specialist, all NDCS.

I. Resolution: Agenda

Mr. Tabano asked the board members if there was a motion to accept and approve the November 2022 agenda.

Motion: Mr. Brian Baer motioned to accept and approve the November 2022, Board of Trustees meeting agenda.

Motion Seconded: Ms. Katharine Urbati seconded the motion.

Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept and approve the November 2022 Board of Trustees meeting agenda.

II. Resolution: Minutes

Mr. Tabano asked if there was a motion to accept and approve the October 2022 board minutes.

Motion: Ms. Jane Sun motioned to accept and approve the October 2022 Board of Trustees meeting minutes.

Motion Seconded: Ms. Jane Sun seconded the motion.

Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept and approve the October 2022 Board of Trustees meeting minutes.

III. Financials—Dr. Lisa DiGaudio, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Lisa DiGaudio filled in for Mr. Steve Ramkissoon and reported that although the Brooklyn school shows a negative income for the monthly report, it has not affected the school's available cash funds. Additionally, Dr. DiGaudio reported that Mr. Ramkissoon informed her that besides low student recruitment numbers, there is nothing significant or negative to report for the Brooklyn or Queens school. Ms. Urbati asked if the board should wait until next month to vote on the October and November 2022 financials simultaneously. Mr. Tabano recommended that the board go ahead and vote on the November 2022 financial. Ms. Urbati stated that she agreed on voting on the financials now and further stated that if any other questions arise, they can be addressed in the December meeting.

Benchmark 4: Financial Condition

Benchmark 5: Financial Management

a. Resolution: Monthly Financials

Mr. Tabano asked the board members if there was a motion to accept the October 2022 financials.

Motion: Ms. Katharine Urbati motioned to accept and approve the October 2022 monthly financials.

Motion Seconded: Ms. Jane Sun seconded the motion.

Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept and approve the October 2022 monthly financials.

IV. Hiring, Recruitment, and School Updates

Benchmark 1: Student Performance

Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student & Family Engagement

Benchmark 6: Board Oversight & Governance

Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity

a. Staff Hiring— Dr. Lisa DiGaudio

Dr. DiGaudio reported that there is still a SPED teacher shortage. Dr. DiGaudio reported that committee meetings have begun and that a staff recruitment drive is scheduled to begin in January 2023. NDCHS will reach out to different schools, that will be graduating potential recruits in January 2023, and notify them that NDCS is hiring.

b. Student Recruitment—Dr. Lisa DiGaudio

Regarding student recruitment, Dr. DiGaudio informed the board that the recruiting committee is using the website Schola that shows where parents are looking to possibly matriculate their children. The website will indicate if they have considered NDCS as a potential school for their child. Subsequently, the recruiting committee will then reach out to those parents. The website is

free to use. Dr. DiGaudio also mentioned that the Queens school is in contact with Forest Hills High School and International High School in the continuing effort to recruit new students. Mr. Tabano commented that he was not aware that the Schola website was free. Dr. DiGaudio confirmed that it is free. She also mentioned that in the past year, the school was using recruiting platforms such as Vanguard without much success and now she is exploring other platforms that might be more productive. Dr. DiGaudio also mention that Schola uses multiple social media platforms that students frequent to access potential recruits.

c. School Updates—Mr. Zach Flory

Mr. Flory informed the board that Brooklyn has 245 students enrolled and the Queens school has 237 students assigned. Both schools have enrolled thirty-eight (38) new students since the beginning of the year. However, both schools have several discharges pending. Therefore, the recruiting effort must continue to enroll more students. Mr. Flory also informed the board that both schools had an active shooter drill at each school location as part of the STOP grant requirement. The scenario included a student that had hung himself in the bathroom and a soft lockdown was initiated. After the drill, both schools became aware of several areas that needed improvement including the need to streamline internal communication, the need to fix some technology issues which did not allow clear and audible announcements at the Queens school, and the need to train staff on exactly what they need to do for different types of drills. Mr. Flory reported to the board that in addition to re-training the staff on procedures for each emergency drill, a tabletop exercise should be conducted to make clear what everyone individually should be doing in each emergency scenario.

Mr. Tabano agreed that the exercises are helpful in getting the schools ready for emergency situations and he confirmed that there will be at least two (2) more drills that will be conducted.

d. Curriculum & Instruction Update—Dr. Lisa DiGaudio

Dr. Lisa DiGaudio informed the board that New York State is managing a lot of different grants that will be implemented soon. One of those grants is TRLE, which means teaching in a remote learning environment. The State will also provide a course to every teacher and administrator in New York State that will be for free. Dr. DiGaudio also informed the board that after reviewing changes in the Next Generation Standards, the testing dates, and delays she believes that the school's curriculum and mapping will need to be adjusted.

Some of the changes that the state has made includes implementation of Next Generation across subject areas, the alignment to updated SEL Benchmarks, including graduation profile targets. Also. There are modifications in TRLE big ideas including: Equity Centered-Trauma Informed Instruction, and Resilient Design Framework, alternate assessment, and updates in Project Based Learning footprints.

Since adoption in 2019, 162 maps have been developed and revised.

Regarding CHALK, over the summer, all Fall 2022 maps were re-written to adopt new changes from NYSED and reflect the integration of SEL and Academics rather than stand-alone

elements. Fifty-two (52) maps were rewritten and re-aligned over the summer vacation. These changes provide more flexibility to teachers in content choices. Other changes include aligned RDL, ECT, SEL and PBIS elements across subject areas. Adjustments were made in incorporated Project Based Learning in every subject area that did not culminate with a Regents exam including service-learning opportunities in the advisory courses.

Dr. DiGaudio informed the board that PBIS, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports, is a widely accepted framework for encouraging a positive school culture that is not punitive in nature but preventative. Dr. Asmussen, Ms. Lobato, Ms. Askin, Mr. Sevenand, and Mr. Rabinovich attended the conference. Subsequently, a steering committee comprising these attendees and Mr. Flory was created to ensure the main themes of the conference are aligned to our curriculum and professional development plan. Important to PBIS is the alignment in chalk. This alignment is inherent from summer revisions. Also, PLCs will that there is a focus on identifying and cultivating positive behaviors through February.

Dr. DiGaudio informed the board that IXL is the replaced Scantron. Not surprisingly, there is significant gaps in different skills across grade levels. Teachers will use IXL for interventions as well as for Regents Prep. IXL is easy to use and is multi-modal such that students can work from a Chromebooks or off-site on their phones. It uses real-time data which is calculated as students work in class or off-site. IXL also offers suggestions to remedy skill deficiencies.

Dr. DiGaudio informed the board that professional development (PD) is multi-faceted. PD is done in a whole group (Opening Sessions and Mandatory Trainings). It occurs during pre-service, election day, and Superintendent Conference Days. Department meetings are scheduled monthly. Additionally, PLCs replace the weekly PD and is focused on integrating PBIS with academics. Principals and Dr. DiGaudio participate and ensure that individual meetings continue to occur.

Finally, regarding upcoming events and goals, Dr. DiGaudio reported to the board that school leaders continue to strive to be leaders in working with OAUC students. School leaders will be representing our work at the RAPSA conference and serving on several leadership panels represented by other state Education departments that also prioritize OAUC programming during this convening. Dr. DiGaudio stated to the board that this is a great honor to be considered leaders in this field. New Dawn will continue to treat curriculum as a living document that must change with the students and the needs of the community. Anticipated changes for the Spring 2023 semester will include planning for PBIS and positive behaviors, as well as the best practices that PLCs shared to encourage student engagement and interaction in each classroom.

The goal is to ultimately build an OER site for OAUC educators that can easily implement teaching moves and strategies that will reflect the New Dawn key design as a gold standard in design for at-risk students and other alternative programming sites.

Mr. Tabano congratulated Dr. DiGaudio for her thorough work and presentation. Ms. Jane Sun asked Dr. DiGaudio to confirm that Scantron was replaced by IXL entirely and Dr. DiGaudio confirmed that it was.

VII. Policies and Procedures

a. BEDS data.

Ms. Emily Predmore confirmed that BEDS data was submitted. Mr. Tabano asked what information was submitted with the BEDS data report. Ms. Predmore confirmed that data such as number of enrollments per school, free and reduced lunch numbers, internships, employment training, and career planning. Dr. DiGaudio also stated that the BEDS data is a snapshot of the school. Mr. Tabano asked the board members if there were any questions regarding the BEDS data that was submitted. There were no questions.

b. Sweatshirts from Queens—Dr Lisa DiGaudio

Dr. DiGaudio asked the board members to approve the school sweatshirt design. All board members liked and approved the Queens school new sweatshirt design.

IX. New Business

Mr. Tabano asked if there is new business. There was no new business. Mr. Tabano asked Mr. Obregon, Director of Operations, if there were any facility issues to report. Mr. Obregon stated that the handicap ramp door was serviced. Now, Mutual security must come to the school to sync the door lock device on the wall with the locking mechanism. Mr. Tabano asked Mr. Obregon where the Queens school was with the caging that needs to be installed on stairwell A and Stairwell B to prevent access to the roof. Mr. Obregon stated that Barone was in the process of moving to install such caging but stopped when the roof project was initiated. Mr. Obregon stated that he will reach out to Mr. Scott Barone and Mr. Chris Karalis to ask about the caging installation. Mr. Tabano informed the board that Andrew is no longer working with Barone, so Mr. Obregon should continue to work directly with Mr. Scott Barone regarding these construction issues. Finally, Mr. Obregon informed the board that the water pump at the Queens school was still not fixed and that he will continue to press so it is fixed.

X. Public Comment

No public comment was made.

XI. Adjournment

The board members agreed that the next board meeting is scheduled for December 20, 2022, at 11:00 A.M. The board members then adjourned the meeting at 11:36 A.M.