

**John V. Lindsay Wildcat Academy Charter School  
Board of Trustees Meeting**

**Date:** September 22, 2016

**Time:** 3:00 p.m.

**Place:** John V. Lindsay Academy Charter School  
17 Battery Place, 1<sup>st</sup> Fl.  
New York, N.Y. 10004

**Members Present:** Harvey Neman, Douglas Knight, Ron Tabano, Dana Jackson, Luba Koziolkowsky

**Members Absent:** Lawrence Ng, Rocco DiSpirito, Sy Fliegel, Richard Levine

**Call to Order:** Mr. Newman called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. on September 22, 2016

The minutes of June 2016 and July 2016 were reviewed. Mr. Newman requests a motion.

**Motion:** Mr. Knight makes a motion to accept the June 2016 and July 2016 minutes.

**Second:** Ms. Koziolkowsky seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Report of the CEO**

Mr. Tabano informs the Board that Mr. Michael Steiner, one the English Teachers, has passed on September 7, 2016 at the age of 65. He taught at Wildcat for 18 years. Mr. Steiner left an enormous legacy at Wildcat. He will be sorely missed by students, staff and teachers.

Mr. Tabano reports that the school year recruitment has been progressing very well. We have over 200 students enrolled in the Manhattan campus so far. 25 students have been brought in from the Bronx campus. There are about 300 students enrolled in the Bronx campus. 55 students are newly enrolled.

Mr. Tabano informs the Board that a pilot computer training program in A+ training for certification will be in place for January 2017. The cost of the program, including the instructor and examination cost will be completely picked up by a referral of Mr. Tabano's, who used be an executive at Con Edison. The pilot program will teach 10 students. The program estimates to approximately 120-150 hours of training. After the completion of the training, students who pass the certification test will have an opportunity to obtain employment starting at about \$40K.

Mr. Tabano reports that the City is figuring out a system to disburse the reimbursement money to schools. We should receive an update regarding reimbursement in the next few weeks. Mr. Tabano will keep the Board posted as soon as news arrives.

Mr. Tabano spoke at a coalition meeting yesterday. Ms. Betty Rosen was in attendance. She recognized Wildcat by saying very positive things about our students and school.

Mr. Tabano informs that our Assistant Principal, Mr. Ed Peterman is part of group that observes other schools. The point of the academic rounds is to acquire and share ideas that may work at Wildcat.

The collective bargaining unit is now called the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). This change should not affect us negatively since Wildcat already is a union school.

Mr. Tabano reports that the Anger Management Class funded by the Mental Health Grant is in place and progressing well. We have implemented 2 classes. One is a hand-picked group and the other non hand-picked group. Both are being attended well and seems to have a positive impact on the participants.

Mr. Tabano informs the Board that he will be going to the Danish Embassy in Washington D.C. tomorrow. He was invited by the Danish Minister. Mr. Tabano believes it is a good idea to attend to get some exposure for the school.

We had a very successful summer program. Classes were well attended and the majority of students who attended the summer program passed the Regents.

### **Report of the CFO**

Ms. Sakosky informs the Board that the School received a large furniture donation from Keyrx Pharmaceuticals. Keyrx Pharmaceuticals will be relocating to Boston and they decided that it would be cost effective to donate the furniture and purchase new furniture for their new offices. The donation is approximately \$75K. The cost is about \$12K for the movers and about \$3K to dispose of old furniture.

The audit is going well. There a few finishing touches to be made, however nothing out of the normal. Ms. Sakosky informs the Board that the preliminary numbers look like a \$683K deficit. The reason for the deficit is the retroactive pay for teachers. No cash has been moved from our operating reserves to pay for the deficit.

Ms. Sakosky informs the Board that the endowment fund is doing well relatively compared to current market conditions. It is currently at \$2.4MM. Morgan Stanley has been a great partner to Wildcat.

### **Report of the Bronx Assistant Principal**

Ms. Hannifah Mitchell informs the Board that she will be implementing team teaching. There will be 2 teams of teachers. She chose to design the team teaching groups based on history and skill sets each teacher brought to the table. Each team will teach at least 1 period per day together. The teams will be the following: Music Teacher/Computer Science Teacher, Literacy Specialist/Social Studies-Special Ed and English/U.S. History.

Ms. Mitchell will also change period length to 60 mins from 50 mins. She did this to increase engagement, more time allotted for each student and relationship building. She's also implementing a tweaked dress code. On Thursday, students will have professional dress Thursdays. The students in the ITI group will dress professionally. The students have accepted the new dress code and seem to have pride in attending school. Ms. Mitchell passes out photographs of students in their professional attire. The Board is very impressed by the changes.

Ms. Mitchell has put together some family engagement evenings this term. Some examples are Latina Evening and Parent Education evenings.

The next Board meeting is October 20, 2016 at 3pm at the Manhattan Campus.

Mr. Newman asks for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion:** Mr. Knight moved that we adjourn the meeting.

**Second:** Mr. Tabano seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 4:31 pm.