

## Broome Street Academy Charter High School

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held at Broome Street Academy, 555 Broome Street

Date: Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> 2019

Notice of the meeting was duly given to members of the Board and the public.

Trustees in attendance: David Zurndorfer, Julie Shapiro, Herb Elish, Catherine Aquila, Marlene Nadel, Gail Schargel, Vanda Belusic-Vollor. Stephanie Durden Barfield and Benjamin Felt joined by video conference.

Also present: Melissa Silberman, Eric Weingartner, Andrea Vaghy, Courtney Fox (minutes)

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m., with a quorum

### Approval of Minutes of June 18, 2019 Board Meeting

The minutes of the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, which had been previously circulated, were corrected for attendees and approved.

### Arabella Advisors Grant

Melissa Silberman announced that Broome Street Academy received a \$500,000 grant from an anonymous donor through Arabella Advisors. The one-year grant will be applied to three areas: 1) strengthening academic supports (e.g. credit recovery, SAT prep, and teacher coaching and evaluation), 2) enhancing the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) and Summer School Program, and 3) increasing arts enrichment and out of school programming (includes hiring two new teaching artists and additional crisis counselling services).

### Head of School Report

Ms. Silberman provided an update on BSA's Organizational Chart. She explained that the Assistant Head of School role has been divided into two Academic Deans. She announced that Matthew Molloy will join BSA in August as the Dean of Humanities and Conor Hale, a veteran teacher of BSA, will be the Dean of STEM. Ms. Silberman highlighted that the Senior Director of Operations will be supervising a larger team, including the Director of Admissions. Lastly, she introduced a new position for a Priority Case Worker who will be focused on supporting young people from foster care and vulnerable housing.

Ms. Silberman stated that Fall programming is underway and includes a plan to transition BSA to use the New York State Code Deck for academic programming. In addition, Ms. Silberman reported on projected student promotion rates. These are expected to increase once summer school courses have been completed.

Andrea Vaghy, the Managing Director of Career and Education Services at The Door, and Ms. Silberman reported that 108 students (~39% of the school) are participating in the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). Fifty-five youth are at external placements, 23 youth are

working at The Door and BSA, and 30 younger students are enrolled in a civic engagement program. Ms. Vaghy explained that in the second year of the SYEP grant, the team's priority will be to better design SYEP opportunities around summer school.

Ms. Silberman also provided an update on summer school. She stated that enrollment was 146 students at the start of the program. There are currently 100 students who are continuing to attend. Ms. Silberman explained that summer school attrition is common due to very strict attendance policies. Vanda Belusic-Vollor stated that this level of attrition in summer school is consistent with the experience of the City's public schools.

Ms. Silberman concluded with a summary of admissions and enrollment strategies.

#### Discussion Whether to Establish a Board Award at Graduation

Mr. Zurndorfer and Ms. Silberman proposed a Board Award at graduation to honor and provide scholarship funds to a graduate accepted to a 4-year college. The Board discussed the proposal. Mr. Zurndorfer concluded that the Board is interested, and stated that a specific proposal will be forthcoming.

#### Status Report on BSA School Food Authority

Mr. Zurndorfer reviewed that BSA transitioned to self-operating food services for the 2018-2019 school year. Ms. Vaghy summarized the cost of the program and student participation (over 4,000 breakfasts and more than 15,000 lunches served to BSA students). Training opportunities for BSA students were also discussed.

#### BSA Student Utilization of Door Services

The year-end report of BSA/Door utilization goals was distributed to Board members. Julie Shapiro and Mr. Zurndorfer noted that 50% of BSA students received clinical care in the Adolescent Health Center. Goals for the upcoming school year are being set this summer.

#### Report on NY State Legislative Activity

The Board discussed end-of-term legislative actions concerning charter schools.

#### September 16, 2019 Cultivation Event

Eric Weingartner reviewed that Board members are asked to bring one guest to the September 16<sup>th</sup> cultivation event. He noted that The Door is also inviting their Board members to attend.

#### CEO Report

Mr. Weingartner noted that his team is putting out a process to work with a new audit firm. He discussed the new Managing Director of Individual Giving, Barbara Clapp, and stated that she will be attending the August Board meeting to talk about the gala and the September cultivation event.

At 10:33 a.m. the Board adjourned.