

Broome Street Academy Charter High School

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held by videoconference and by phone.

Date: Tuesday, August 4th, 2020

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

Trustees in attendance: David Zurndorfer, Mónica de la Torre, Catherine Aquila, Stephanie Durden Barfield, Benjamin Felt, Vanda Belusic-Vollor, Jeffrey Katzin, Marlene Nadel, Katie Jaxheimer Agarwal, Noah Leff, Herb Elish and Gail Schargel joined.

Also present: Melissa Silberman, Eric Weingartner, Nora Clancy, Reeham Ahmed (minutes)

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m., with a quorum

#### Approval of Minutes of July 21, 2020 Board Meeting

The minutes for the July 21st meeting, which had been previously circulated, were approved.

#### Reopening Plan

Ms. Silberman described plans for the fall reopening. The school will open virtually on September 10 and shift to a blended model on October 5. A formal Reopening Plan was submitted to the State Department of Health on July 31, and a final version must be submitted to CSI by August 14<sup>th</sup>. David Zurndorfer stated that the Executive Committee had voted unanimously to approve the Plan prior to its submission to DOH.

Eric Weingartner added that he had spoken with SUNY authorizer, Susie Miller Carello, and she supports BSA's plans. Vanda Belusic-Vollor shared the perspective of NYCDOE.

#### Head of School Report

Ms. Silberman shared some highlights about summer school including attendance and enrollment. There are currently 163 students enrolled in summer school; Ms. Silberman noted one of the seniors who enrolled in summer school will be graduating this month. Ms. Silberman stated that "Summer Bridge" currently has 50-60 freshmen students enrolled and on Wednesdays, information sessions are held to discuss BSA's programs and enrichment activities, which include the Door services.

Ms. Silberman proceeded with an update on admissions. To date, 100 freshman offers have been accepted and 61 have completed their paperwork. Ms. Silberman announced that 323 students

are currently enrolled at BSA. She mentioned that every Thursday a workshop is held to support caregivers in completing paperwork for enrollment.

Mr. Zurndorfer asked about participation in SYEP. Ms. Silberman replied that out of 120 seats, 87 students are enrolled and are thrilled to achieve career readiness skills.

Ms. Silberman stated that virtual counseling began on March 18, and BSA has contacted 292 caregivers and held 694 virtual counseling sessions with students.

### Charter Renewal Application

A discussion was had about renewal. Ms. Silberman and Ms. Clancy agreed that the renewal application will be ready for submission by the August 17<sup>th</sup> deadline. Ms. Silberman thanked the cabinet, and the board and Mr. Weingartner for their support in the renewal application process.

Mr. Zurndorfer asked Noah Leff to comment upon the proposed Five-Year Budget which is included in the renewal application. Mr. Leff complimented the budget and stated that it had the support of the Finance Committee. He added that the proposed annual cost increases are modest and should be offset at least in part by fundraising. Ms. Silberman added there are options to change staffing patterns if needed. Mr. Weingartner stated that budgeting conservatively was advisable due to potential budget cuts and that the greatest vulnerability concerned per pupil payments by the State.

### Resolution to Approve Student and Caregiver Handbook

The Board voted unanimously to approve the revised Student and Caregiver Handbook.

### Resolution to Amend Key Design Elements

The Board unanimously approved a resolution to amend the fourth Key Design Element to read as follows: “Multiple pathways to post-secondary success for students not ready for college.”

### CEO Report

Mr. Weingartner announced that the Gala will take place on November 17 virtually. He discussed the New York Times article that was recently published on BSA and the Door. Board members’ congratulated Ms. Silberman and BSA on the article.

Mr. Weingartner announced a new HR Director, Michelle Green who will start on August 10.

At 6:46 p.m. the board then adjourned.