

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

The Eugenio Maria de Hostos Charter School Board of Trustees met virtually on Tuesday, April 26, 2022. Board Chairman, Mr. Julio Vázquez, called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm. A quorum was established.

### **Board Members Virtually Present:**

Julio Vázquez, Connie O. Walker, Dr. Marcia DeJesús-Rueff, Ray Ciccarelli, Dr. Miriam Vázquez, Angélica Pérez-Delgado, Eugenio Marlin, and Miguel Meléndez.

### **Board Member Absent:**

Robert Frasier Jr., and Nelida Torres.

### **School Staff Virtually Present:**

Sandra Chevalier-Blackman, Wellinthon Muñoz, John Harris, Damaris Saltares, Maria Petrella, Nikki Kersbergen, Leslie Rivera, Ryan Caster, Matt Kleehammer, Vincent Alexander, Robert Zimmerli, Wilmarie Velez, and Wanda Adames.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

No public input.

Mr. Vázquez asked for 2022-2023 and Financial Reports to be reported first due to consultant Mr. Caster leaving the meeting early.

### **CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT/FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

The Finance Committee met before the board meeting and reviewed the 2022-2023 school year budget and March's financial statements reports with the Finance Manager, Ms. Kersbergen, and consultant, Mr. Caster. The Finance Committee is recommending the 2022-2023 school year budget for board approval today.

Mr. Caster reviewed and provided an overall summary of the 2022-2023 school year budget. A separate motion for rewarding outstanding performing teachers will need to be made.

Ms. Walker made the motion to accept the 2022-2023 school year budget. Dr. DeJesús-Rueff seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

After discussion, the Finance Committee all agreed and is recommending for board approval for the school to set aside \$25,000 to reward teachers for outstanding performance contingent on an evaluation rubric approved by the Personnel Committee. Ms. Walker made the motion and Ms. Pérez-Delgado seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **Financial Reports**

Ms. Nikki Kersbergen, Finance Manager reviewed the financial statements as of March 31, 2022. Please see the attached reports.

## **MISSION MOMENT:**

The mission moment was presented by the Elementary School. The elementary students grades kindergarten to 6<sup>th</sup> grade participated in their Student-Led Conferences for the first time. Students picked work they were proud of and shared with teachers, staff, and their parents.

## **CHAIRMAN REPORT:**

No new updates.

## **CEO REPORT:**

### **March Attendance:**

- Attendance in February increased from January. The highest attendance percentage came from the grades 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades. March's attendance ended with 84%.

### **Enrollment:**

- Enrollment went down from March at 974 to April at 969.

### **Lottery:**

- 92 parents received offers to attend EMHCS, 48 of which are still pending.
- There is a projected enrollment for the Fall of 2022-2023 at 1021
- There are currently 263 students on the waitlist

The Data dashboard that was presented during the meeting included the following:

- 3-8: NYS ELA Assessment.
- 9-12: Benchmark Assessment 2 (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies)

## **College & Career Readiness**

- There have been 10 college visits since November 2021.
- 95 college applications have been submitted.
- 100% of students have been accepted to a 2-year college and 32 applications were accepted for a 4-year college program
- Twenty students have been awarded a scholarship

## **Cohort 2018 Accountability**

- Total Accountability Cohort 2018 is 51 students
- Six early graduates and 1 dropped student
- Total active enrollment is 44 students

## **Extended Learning Time Program: Zimbrich Campus**

- Before-School: 56 students enrolled – 91% daily attendance
- After-School: 67 students enrolled - 89% of attendance

### **Joseph Campus**

- Before-school: 17 students enrolled – 88% daily attendance
- After-school: 44 students enrolled – 77% attendance

### **External Evaluation**

- External observations have been scheduled for May.

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant**

- The school officially received notification for the award of the Round 8 Grant Award.

### **Operations:**

#### **COVID-19**

- Four positive cases since the last board meeting
- 87-88% of staff have been vaccinated. The non-vaccinated staff has been submitting weekly negative Covid test results.

### **Zimbrich Roof**

- The roof replacement has begun and will be completed in another week.

### **967-979 Joseph Avenue – Administrative Executive Offices**

- Renovations have begun.
- Renovations will be on track for completion from the end of May.

### **2022-2023 Bell Schedule**

- EMHCS will have a new bell schedule.
- RCSD has placed the Charter Schools into tiers (Tier 1 and Tier 2).
  - The elementary school will be from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm bus schedule
  - The middle and high school will be from 7:30 am – 2:30 pm.
    - The early schedule will allow for participation in the sports program.

### **Day of Caring**

- Mr. Harris is soliciting board members and staff for the day of caring to assist with beautifying the Joseph Campus. More information will be shared the following week.

### **CEO Updates:**

- **Budget Meetings**
  - The first draft proposal and edits were completed
- **Long Term Suspension (LTS) Meetings**
  - I attended seven high school and one middle school LTS meetings

- **NY Seal of Biliteracy Presentation at the high school**
  - 12 students presented at the high school
  
- **Capital Campaign Received**
  - \$2,500 venue sponsorship from FreedMaxick
  - \$1,000 table sponsorship from the Puerto Rican Festival
  - The band has been donated by BlackHawk Security
  
- **Human Resource Department**
  - Ms. Wilmarie Velez Feliciano started as the new elementary assistant principal.

**Grants Updates:**

**Donors Choose Update:** Posted: \$43,551.41 & Funded: \$34,446.03

- EMHCS currently has 10 live projects waiting for funding – (eight at the elementary school and two at the middle school.)

**Grants:**

- EMHCS won Round 8 of the 21st Century Grant: \$1,078,098 each year for the next 5 years to fund our ELT program.

**Submitted in March:**

- Invitation to Apply for No Kid Hungry Grant Round 2: \$50,000
- School Lunch Program Kitchen Equipment Grant: \$20,000
- ARP Homeless Children and Youth Grant: \$20,253

**ACTION ITEMS**

March’s board meeting minutes were presented for approval. Dr. Vázquez moved the motion, and Ms. Walker seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Personnel Committee**

The Personnel Committee met on April 13<sup>th</sup> and discussed the need for a policy about recording meetings and school activities because there were problems with students recording and sending videos to other individuals causing conflicts.

Dr. Vázquez moved the motion to accept the Recordings of Meeting and School Activities Policy. Mr. Ciccarelli seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Building Committee**

The Building Committee met today, April 26<sup>th</sup>. The following updates were discussed:

**Zimbrich Campus**

The work at the Zimbrich Roof has begun and will be completed within the next two weeks.

- The school has received two quotes for the front entry of the Zimbrich Campus. They are waiting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> quote.

### **Bell Schedule**

- Transportation issues with the new bell schedule as discussed prior with Mr. Harris

### **Church @ Joseph Campus**

- The insurance company is continuing to work on the claim to replace the boiler at the church. Additional information is needed.
- There is a potential tenant for the church as of July 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Administrative Office**

- The renovations have begun and will be completed by the end of May.

### **Day of Caring**

- There is a tentative date of May 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **Landscaping Bids**

- The school is looking for 3 bids for landscaping for the Zimbrich, Joseph, and the Administrative office.
- Mr. Harris will submit bids for approval with Ms. Blackman
- The Building Committee can approve since the amount is less than \$20,000.

Dr. Vázquez shared that the Rotary Walkathon is the same day as the tentative date for Day of Caring.

### **Fundraising Committee**

#### **Gala**

- Mr. Ciccarelli, Ms. Blackman, and Ms. Adames will Visit Casa Larga in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of May to visit the venue and discuss the contract and renegotiate the rate.
- Focus on getting all the sponsorship opportunities paid
- Mr. Ciccarelli shared that the table captains collect all the monies from the individuals and then send one check to the school.

### **ACADEMIC COMMITTEE REPORT:**

The Academic Committee meeting met today, April 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Key Points for 2022-2023 At A Glance Calendar**

- The calendar has a lot of professional development built into the calendar
  - It helps build teachers' capacity and provides them time to get lesson plans together.
- The first day of school is September 6, 2022.
  - 182 school days for elementary and middle school

- 181 school days for high school
- Five days are noon dismissal for building base PD so staff can work together.
- 3 EMHCS Conference Day – full days of PD
- There is one emergency day in case of makeup – April 28, 2022.

Dr. DeJesús-Rueff moved the motion to approve the At a Glance Calendar 2022-2023 School Calendar. Mr. Ciccarelli seconded the motion. The motion has been approved unanimously.

Mr. Meléndez recommended for the school do an in-house celebration for Juneteenth.

### **Governance Committee**

No current updates.

### **Old Business**

No old business.

### **New Business**

No new business.

### **Executive Session**

No executive session.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to discuss, Mr. Vázquez asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ciccarelli and Ms. Walker seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Vazquez shared that for June, the board meeting will be in person. The board will need to pass a resolution, the process is a bit complicated. The school is seeking legal advice from the attorney to see how to proceed if a board member wishes to attend virtually.

### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next Board Meeting will meet virtually on Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> via Zoom Link.

Respectfully submitted,

Angélica Pérez-Delgado  
Board Secretary