



NEW VISIONS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING

New Visions Charter High School for Advanced Math and Science II (AMS II)

New Visions Charter High School for the Humanities II (HUM II)

*Minutes for Meeting held at NVPS:
Monday, February 10, 2014 at 5 p.m.*

ATTENDANCE

Board Members present: Ronald Chaluisan, David Faber (Treasurer), Edmund Gaffney, Nancy Grossman, Edna Vega

Not Present: Angel Rodriguez

NVPS Staff: Stephany Martinez, Lori Mei,

School Staff: Sharon John (COO AMS II), Stacey King (Principal AMS II), Richard Gonzalez (Principal HUM II)

WELCOME

Mr. Chaluisan opened the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

Ms. Grossman put forth a motion to accept the minutes from the December 16, 2014 meeting. Ms. Vega seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Faber put forth a motion to accept the minutes from the January 10, 2014 meeting. Mr. Gaffney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

New Visions Charter High School for the Humanities II

Mr. Gonzalez discussed the anchor projects for Trimester 2, noting that the theme is "How can a HUM II scholar take control of his/her destiny?" Mr. Gonzalez described the details of the anchor project expectations and desirable outcomes for students. The Trustees and Mr. Gonzalez engaged in a lively discussion about helping students see the steps to reach the desired end goal of a career choice or life choice.

Mr. Gonzalez discussed the attendance report, noting that January was a challenging month for attendance because of the cold and holiday break. He noted that the Regent Scoring days in the DOE affected attendance; a noticeable trend is that when DOE high school students are not in session, HUM II's attendance rate drops. Mr. Gonzalez and the Attendance Team are holding attendance meetings with parents and students. During the meetings, there is a discussion with parents and students in order to formalize an individual attendance plan. There is also discussion on state and school requirements about attendance. The Attendance Team meets every Monday to discuss and review the attendance data from the previous week.

Mr. Gonzalez described community engagement efforts, noting that HUM II is reaching out to parents of students to be a part of Trimester 2's Anchor. Students have been asked to interview members of the community as part of their "Success Story Article." Mr. Gonzalez asked the Trustees to let him know if they could recommend anyone who achieved success through hard work and dedication during high school and college and who could devote 10-15 minutes of their time on March 6,7, or 10, 2014.

Mr. Gonzalez described school climate, noting that the Student Teacher Assistance Team (STAT) Meetings including a review of Trimester 1 data will begin on January 22nd. Scholars selected for a STAT meeting have been identified as students with strong academic potential, but who are currently failing three or more classes. The STAT meeting is an academic intervention designed to help a scholar improve his/her academic performance before the end of the Trimester.

Mr. Gonzalez briefly updated the Trustees on the Scholar Stamp Program, noting that it continues with great success; scholars are earning points for demonstrating the "HUM II Way" and for academic achievement as well. The next celebration is on Friday, February 14, 2014 and will feature a movie and an afternoon dance for the scholars that qualify. Mr. Gonzalez extended an invitation to the Trustees to attend if they are available.



Mr. Gonzalez presented the grade distribution for Trimester 1, noting that, across the network, HUM II's data is closest to its sister school AMS II, especially with respect to the Class of 2016. Areas of concern are the Living Environment class with a passing rate of 100% and ELA 10th grade with a passing rate of 94%. Mr. Gonzalez will review the assessments used in class and the grading to review the rigor of the coursework. Mr. Gonzalez responded to several questions by the Trustees around the data presented on Trimester 1.

Mr. Gonzalez concluded his report noting that 43 Scholars have tested out of Read 180, each getting a Lexile score of 1000 or more.

HUM II Financials

Mr. Gonzalez discussed the financial report for HUM II, noting that there are no major changes since the last report. He also noted he has been able to provide for the instructional staff's needs even though the school is slightly under enrolled.

New Visions Charter High School for Advanced Math and Science II

Ms. King updated the Trustees on the overall mid-year progress of AMS II, noting that the 2016 Cohort (10th graders) achieved a 75% pass rate on the Algebra Regents. She noted that nine of the 10th grade scholars passed the Algebra Regents for the very first time in January and six of the 10th grade SPED scholars passed the Integrated Algebra Regents with the safety net score of 55%, which meets graduation requirements for Math.

Ms. King discussed current enrollment numbers, noting that there are 246 students enrolled to date at AMS II. The goal is to increase that number to 250 students. Ms. King noted that her team will continue to utilize outreach initiatives to increase enrollment, including the recent Poetry Slam event which was covered by News 12. Ms. King also noted that AMS II has received 697 applications for the next school year. There will be an open house in March for families that have applied as well as for prospective families included in the vanguard mailing, which includes zip codes within the school's district.

Ms. King updated the Trustees on staffing and professional development plans, noting that as of January 2014, AMS II is fully staffed. Ms. King indicated that the Leadership Team continues to focus on teacher development and support by engaging the staff in professional development opportunities and by providing frequent mini-observations. The frequent mini-observations are utilized to identify the highest leverage areas for teacher improvement. Mini-post observation meetings are then scheduled to debrief, coach, and to identify next steps to



support teachers' professional growth. Ms. King also noted that one goal moving forward is to utilize technology during teacher intervisitation including documenting these visits through video. The videos will be used during debriefs and coaching sessions for learning and to highlight best practices.

Ms. King noted that there is one teacher on a professional improvement plan and she will be frequently checking in with this teacher to review progress. Ms. Vega asked what content this teacher taught and Ms. King responded that it is Global History.

Ms. King presented the attendance report, noting that the year-to-date attendance rate is 92%. She noted that the attendance initiative where students and parents of students who were continuously absent met with the attendance coordinator, school counselor, and a member of the administrative team to discuss targeted interventions was successful. Ms. King noted that through family involvement and holding students accountable, the attendance rate will continue to be high and it will be possible to decrease the number of students who are absent 10 or more times during the course of the school year.

Ms. King discussed the Course Pass Rates, noting that 93% of students in the 2017 Cohort passed all four core classes in Trimester 1. For the same cohort, 65% of SPED scholars passed four core classes and 29% passed three core classes. She also noted that for ELL scholars 90% passed all four core classes. For the 2016 Cohort, 83% of the general education scholars passed all four core classes in Trimester 1. For the same cohort, 63% of SPED scholars passed four core classes, 21% passed three core classes, and 16% passed two core classes. Ms. King noted that there are targeted interventions for scholars who fail a core class and parents are required to come in and talk with a teacher or counselor. Ms. Grossman asked what kind of ramifications there are for parents who do not show up to these meetings and Ms. King responded that calls are made daily until a time is scheduled with the parent to meet with a school administrator or teacher. Ms. King also noted that pass rates have improved for the SPED scholars since last year. Ms. King responded to several questions by the Trustees around the data presented on student outcomes results for Trimester 1.

Ms. King concluded her report with an update on the male mentorship program, noting that students who were identified as "at risk" meet weekly with three members of the instructional team and follow the Passport to Manhood guide from Big Brothers Big Sisters during group meetings.

AMS II Financials



Ms. John presented on the financials at AMS II, noting that the school is in good financial standing. She noted that there is currently a focus on technology and recruitment, with the goal of reaching 250 total enrollment by March. Ms. Grossman asked about the difference between AMS II and HUM II's budget and Mr. Gonzalez responded that he has a higher number of SPED students. Mr. Gaffney asked if the schools have a way to distinguish themselves and Ms. King responded that Ms. John is working with Mr. Timothy Farrell, Acting Vice President for External Affairs, to build a website for each individual school. Mr. Gaffney suggested getting the students involved in the process as a great internship opportunity or learning experience.

Ms. Vega asked if parents have expressed concern about the possibility of charter schools closing and Mr. Chaluisan responded that it was not raised as a concern for the parents who attended a recent community forum that was organized by Ms. Jennie Soler-McIntosh, Director of Community Engagement. He noted that the purpose of the community forums is to broadly help parents and students understand the selection and application process for choosing any type of high school, public or charter. The Community Engagement Team will continue to host community forums in the next couple of weeks.

Ms. Grossman suggested that students create video blogs of their schools and post them on youtube as a way to distinguish schools across the network. Mr. Chaluisan responded that it is possible but there would have to be clear procedure and process. It would help with recruitment and outreach efforts.

BOARD BUSINESS

Monthly Metrics Draft Report

Mr. Chaluisan shared a draft metrics report designed to update Board Members on several key school metrics. The report will present data monthly and show change from the previous reporting period. The template is in draft form and if Board Members have any thoughts or additions they would like to see please contact Ms. Mei. Mr. Chaluisan noted that the first monthly metric report will be prepared for the March board meeting. The Trustees and Mr. Chaluisan and Ms. Mei engaged in a lively discussion around the usefulness of a monthly metrics report.

Board Terms

Ms. Grossman noted that at the January meeting there was a discussion on the need to vote on a Board Chairperson and she proposed Ms. Edna Vega as a candidate. Ms. Vega responded that she is willing to be the Chairperson if the rest of the Board of Trustees agree.

Mr. Gaffney put forth a motion to accept Ms. Vega as the Chairperson to the Board. Ms. Grossman



seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Update on Co-Locating Charter Schools

Mr. Faber asked Mr. Chaluisan to give an update on conversations around the co-location of current and future charter high schools. Mr. Chaluisan and the Trustees discussed Mayor DiBlasio's policy on co-location and charter schools.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Chaluisan adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.