

## **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, January 13, 2014 at 5 p.m.*

### **ATTENDANCE**

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

NVPS Staff: Jonathan Green, Stacy Martin, Stephany Martinez, Lori Mei, Jennie Soler-McIntosh

School Staff: Stacey King (Principal AMS II) (Call), Richard Gonzalez (Principal HUM II)

### **WELCOME**

Mr. Chaluisan opened the meeting at 5:02 p.m. by introducing the newly hired Director of School Leadership Jonathan Green. Mr. Green gave a brief introduction of his past educational experiences and an overview of his new role at NVPS.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES**

Due to scheduling conflicts for the Board of Trustees the January Board meeting was held at NVPS and via conference call. There was no quorum and the Trustees postponed voting on the December Minutes until February's Board meeting.

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

#### **New Visions Charter High School for Advanced Math and Science II**

Mr. Gonzalez discussed instruction and the continued support for teachers around the effective classroom management and skill building. The Instructional Specialist meet with teachers throughout the semester to work on strategies to maximize student

learning in the classroom. Mr. Gonzalez noted that he and his Assistant Principals have conducted formal observations and have met with individual teachers to discuss areas for growth. Ms. Grossman asked about the content for professional development and who decides on the content. Mr. Gonzalez replied that the School Leadership Team, Instructional Specialist, and Director of Instruction at NVPS meet to discuss and decide on content for the year.

Mr. Gonzalez discussed the community connections, noting that Council Member Carmen Arroyo will be visiting for a guided tour of HUM II. He also noted that William Acevedo from Young Urban Christians and Artists, Inc (YUCA) will be partnering with Ms. Lucinda Kalin, Art Teacher, to expand the art program at HUM II.

Mr. Gonzalez gave an update on the attendance and discharge reports, noting that there was a slight dip in attendance due to the extremely cold weather. Mr. Gaffney asked if there is a certain number of days a student could miss before being held back a grade. Mr. Chaluisan responded that students always have the opportunity to show their mastery of content but there are requirements for students to be in class for a specified amount of time in order to receive credit. He also noted that there is a credit recovery option for students.

Mr. Gonzalez completed his report with an update on the visit by Melinda Gates, noting that Ms. Chelsea Katzenberg, Social Studies Teacher, was invited to a special dinner by Ms. Gates and was mentioned in Ms. Gates's blog post regarding "The Most Inspiring Women and Girls I Met This Year."

### **New Visions Charter High School for the Humanities II**

Ms. King updated the Trustees with highlights on instructional learning and practices, noting a focus on planning and strategizing around co-teaching.

Ms. King noted that the Leadership Team has committed to visiting 15 classrooms every week for mini-observations and coaching. The goal is to provide more feedback and support to teachers around their individualized goals. Ms. Grossman asked Ms. King and Mr. Gonzalez to consider videotaping teachers during their observations without the observer and then watching the videos together and talking through the lesson plan and the strengths and weaknesses that are observed. Ms. Grossman noted that this is especially helpful for new teachers who may get nervous with having someone watching them during a lesson. It would also help teachers better understand how to improve because they are receiving immediate feedback and can concretely see what they are doing. Mr. Chaluisan noted part of Mr. Green's role will also be to help identify different

strategies for Leadership Teams to better support teacher development.

Ms. King also discussed the professional development plans for Trimester 2, noting that teachers were asked to identify three goals around Challenge-Based-Learning. They will attend workshops around their goals and then present what they learned to each other. Ms. Grossman noted that asking teachers to give each other feedback around their interests is a great way to empower Ms. King's teaching staff.

Ms. King gave an update on the upcoming community and school wide events. she concluded her report with an update on anchor, noting that anchor will be focused on "Building a Better Campus."

### **Community Engagement Updates**

Ms. Soler-McIntosh, Director of Community Engagement at NVPS, updated the Trustees on the current state of applications. Schools will continue to use the Vanguard zip code mass mailings since this was a highly effective student recruitment effort last year and helped to introduce families to our schools. The direct mailing cast a wider outreach net by providing a larger catchment area of students within particular zip codes. Ms. Soler-McIntosh responded to several questions by the Trustees.

## **BOARD BUSINESS**

### **Co-Location Update**

The Trustees and Mr. Chaluisan engaged in a lively discussion around the new mayor and the possible outcomes it may bring regarding the charter schools' locations. Ms. Vega made a recommendation to encourage parents to attend meetings in Albany with regard to charter school support from the State. Ms. Soler-McIntosh noted that the Charter Center is hosting an "Advocacy Day" in Albany and her team is meeting with the Parent Coordinators to encourage their school's families to attend this event to voice their student's needs.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Chaluisan adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.