

**John V. Lindsay Wildcat Academy Charter School  
Board of Trustees Meeting**

**Date:** January 16, 2020

**Time:** 3:00 p.m.

**Place:** John V. Lindsay Academy Charter School  
17 Battery Place, 1<sup>st</sup> Fl.  
New York, N.Y. 10004

**Members Present:** Harvey Newman, Douglas Knight, Richard Levine, Ron Tabano, Sy Fliegel, Dana Jackson, Lawrence Ng, Luba Koziolkowsky

**Members Absent:**

**Call to Order:** Mr. Newman called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. on January 16, 2020

The minutes of December 2019 were reviewed. Mr. Newman requests a motion to accept the December 2019 minutes.

**Motion:** Mr. Tabano makes a motion to accept the December 2019 minutes.

**Second:** Ms. Koziolkowsky seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Report of the CEO**

Mr. Tabano reports that our lobbyist have drafted a letter to Mr. Carl Heastie's attention in regards the \$500K State Aid for the school. A 2 day trip to Albany has been tentatively set at the end February to address needs. The goal will be two-fold: 1) Talk to a representative in the State Senate and State Assembly to discuss the \$500K State Aid 2) to represent the charter coalition, C3S.

The news on the city allocation for our retroactive pay reimbursement is progressing slowly unfortunately. Mr. Tabano will keep the board posted as updates arrive.

We have been selected by NYSED to participate in a Nationwide Data Analysis project. Alternative education information and accountability measures will be gathered by the project from schools such as ours. Esklota, a city think tank will be gathering data and accountability measures on a city level. The goal is to arrive at accountability measures that are equitable especially for schools with our population.

We continue to do intake. It's progressively slowly due to increased competition. Currently we have 17 new students ensured for our roster in the Manhattan campus, but we suspect an uptick in new students for both campuses as the spring semester starts.

Phil Jack, the Director of Internship will be retiring at the end of January after almost 20 years of service at Wildcat. The board wishes Mr. Jack congratulations on his upcoming retirement and offers him gratitude for his dedication he gave to the Wildcat. We have offered his assistant, Madeline Rosario Mr. Jack's position which comes with a promotion and a salary increase.

Christopher Kim reports that he is currently completing and disseminating accountability reports for the DOE. He has also disseminated documents and reports to Mary Grace Eapen, who is working on our charter renewal.

The City has arranged for us to have a public hearing on January 30<sup>th</sup> for our charter revision to add 8<sup>th</sup> grade to our charter.

### **Report of the CFOO**

Ms. Sakosky informs the Board that our financial position still remains strong. Our total liabilities and net asset increased 2.7%, cash and cash equivalents are at \$3.3MM and the value of the investment portfolio is at \$2.7MM. We received the IDEA money, but are still awaiting funds from the State and City. Ms. Sakosky is confident that our financial position will remain strong for the rest of the fiscal year. As far as net assets, there's an increase for the 6 months ending in December of \$792K. We are building a 3% increase which amounts to \$16K, for our CSA participants (Mr. Peterman and Ms. Mitchell) that have not been accrued as of yet. This will not negatively affect our fund balance. Even though we have struggled with enrollment, the net margin over the last 3 years is \$1.1MM. That should give the board some confidence in our financial position. Mr. Newman concurs with Ms. Sakosky and commends school leadership for being financially efficient while keeping watchful eyes with school funds and simultaneously providing first-rate services to Wildcat students. Ms. Sakosky informs the Board that we are exploring hands-on learning experiences for students. An example is VR Quest which is a game-based learning platform. Students create an historical events and can experience the environment in virtual reality. VR Quest promotes social emotional learning, team building, and adheres to learning standards. We plan to introduce VR Quest in the afterschool program and then allow teachers to test it over the summer. The cost is approximately \$14K for the 1<sup>st</sup> year and \$10K after that for each location. We will utilize 21C funds to purchase VR Quest. The cost will include software, hardware and support. We are also exploring ideas for the music class and are meeting with Mr. Lance, the music instructor and students for input.

The group health renewal goes affect March 1<sup>st</sup>. The rate increases will be in the double digits. The cost of the base plan (Metro Plan) will increase 11.2%, the middle plan (Liberty Gold) will increase 18%.

### **Report of the Bronx Assistant Principal**

We have attended 10 open houses since April 2019 and 7 since the beginning of the fall term. Intake is ongoing albeit slow since we have experienced increased competition for students. Our next open house will be held on 2/5/20. For the fall semester, we have picked up 65 new students. Currently there are 20 students who are waiting for the spring semester to commence. IEP and teaching schedules have been set. Data shows that 1 out of 3 students will have an IEP. As an incentive, students who have 100% attendance rates for a specific week will have the option to join the Culinary Lunch Club where they can eat with the culinary students on that Friday. The food would be prepared by the Culinary Program. It's been a successful program so far. For the most recent week, 15 students have joined the Culinary Lunch Club. John Rhodes, a social studies teacher in the Bronx Campus will be retiring at the end of January.

The next Board meeting is February 20, 2020 at 2pm at the Manhattan Campus.

Mr. Newman asks for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion:** Mr. Knight moved that we adjourn the meeting.

**Second:** Mr. Ng seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 3:53 pm.