## **Board of Trustees Meeting**

## **December 3, 2020**

#### 6:15 PM

Trustees Participating: Elizabeth Burrell, Emmanuel Caudillo, Lori Kaplan, Linda Moore, Juan Carlos Pereira, Kate Brannon

Absent Trustees: James Gaston, Justin Lofton, Ana Hageage

Staff & Contractors Participating: Nicole Hanrahan, Mohammad Bashshiti (Building Hope). Monique Booker (SB & Company)

ITEM/SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION/PROPOSED ACTION
Motion to open the meeting		The virtual meeting was
		called to order at 6:24 pm by
		Lori Kaplan following a
		motion by Liz Burrell and a
		second by Juan Carlos Pereira
SY 2019-20 Audit Report	Monique Booker from	Lori Kaplan commended the
	SB&Company gave an	financial team for work that
	overview of the audit report,	led to a good audit report.
	which has previously been	
	reviewed by the Audit	Monique Booker will provide
	Committee. The audit was	information about how to
	performed completely	secure cyber insurance.
	remotely. Financial	
	statements were found to be	
	clean. No instances of fraud	
	were found. There was one	
	notation about cybersecurity	
	and the IT infrastructure due	
	to the increased reliance on	
	IT during the pandemic.	
	SB&Company recommended	
	securing IT insurance. There	
	was an increase in total	
	assets at year end. The PPP	
	loan is on the balance sheet	
	at the end of the fiscal year	
	but, once the loan is	

Financial Report	forgiven, it will be treated as a grant on the financial statement. Per pupil funding from OSSE increased during the year while expenses were reduced. Liz Burrell asked what is involved in securing cyber insurance. Ms. Booker committed to providing that information. There were questions about reduced G&A expenses and federal grants from previous years. The G&A expense reduction is due, in part, to the new financial services agreement.  Mohammad Bashshiti presented the financial report for the period ending October 31st. There were 250 days of cash, \$2.7M, available at that time. Budget variances in grants income is due to timing. Expense has several positive variances. Ms. Brannon asked about occupancy expenditures. Mr. Bashshiti responded that we are under budget in that area, due, in part, to decreases in utility costs.	At some point the audit committee will need to entertain proposals for new auditors.
Approval of meeting minutes		Liz Burrell moved to approve the minutes from the board meetings on October 8 <sup>th</sup> , November 9 <sup>th</sup> and November 24 <sup>th</sup> . Emmanuel seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.
Follow-up on leveraging Catalogue of Philanthropy placement	Nicole Hanrahan reported that \$840 was raised from eight donors on Giving Tuesday. The year-end fundraising letter will go out	1. Trustees will seek to get donations from 1-2 new donors in response to the yearend appeal letter.

	shortly and we are expecting several upcoming media placements. Ms. Kaplan suggested conducting a social media audit after the holidays to assess the success of the academy's marketing activities. Nicole asked that trustees commit to asking one or two people to make a donation at any level in response to the year-end solicitation letter.	<ol> <li>Nicole Hanrahan will circulate list of new Giving Tuesday donors to determine whether they have relationships with trustees.</li> <li>Ms. Hanrahan will follow up on the suggestion to conduct a media audit after the holidays.</li> </ol>
CMO update and vote to renew agreement		Board approval of the new CMO agreement will be tabled until the next meeting.
ED Update	1. Ms. Hanrahan asked for feedback about her goals for the next year (See attached list). Trustees were generally in support of the goals, especially the emphasis on communications, advocacy and thought leadership. Lori suggested including advocacy for allowing high school graduates who are not prepared for post-secondary education or the workforce to be served by alternative and adult education schools in the list of goals. She also suggested that advocacy activities should focus, in part, on the post-pandemic workforce need for IT and medical assistance personnel.  2. Re-opening Plans—Ms. Hanrahan is leaning heavily on deferring re-opening until the early spring primarily due to the current and expected	Follow-up suggestions for Nicole:  1. Survey students to assess their availability to participate in-person classes.  2. Possibly offer incentives to students for attendance.  3. Include finding solutions for reengaging lapsed students.

oncoming surge in COVID cases and the health vulnerability of students and 3. Good news: The receipt of the \$25K grant from Marriott and a new OSSE grant. New media exposure is planned. 4. Ms. Hanrahan is considering allocating approximately \$36K for yearend bonuses to staff. Bonuses would be based on the length of employment. She asked trustees to consider her eligibility to receive a bonus. Trustees supported the notion of a year-end budget, leaving the details to Nicole. Liz Burrell made the motion to go into executive session for the purpose of considering Nicole's eligibility to receive a year-end bonus. Kate Brannon seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **Executive Session** Trustees discussed whether to authorize Nicole's participation in the year-end bonus. Kate made motion to authorize up to a \$4000 yearend bonus for Nicole Hanrahan and a total cap of \$45,000 for all staff. Juan Carlos Pereira provided the second and the motion was approved unanimously. Trustees also recommended that Ms. Hanrahan consider

Resumption of General Meeting	awarding a larger bonus to Dr. Jacqueline Fernandez, principal. Lori Kaplan reported the results of the aforementioned motion and recommendation.	
Governance and Board Development	Liz Burrell asked Nicole Hanrahan to request draft language from the DC Charter School Alliance to ensure by-law compliance with the DC Open Meetings Act.	Nicole will follow-up accordingly, ask a pro bono attorney to look over the proposed language and the governance committee will present the information at the February board meeting on Thursday, February 4, 2021.  Linda Moore will write a holiday message to staff for inclusion in the December newsletter
Motion to close the meeting		Following a motion presented by Linda Moore and seconded by Kate Brannon, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24pm.

## Special Board of Trustees Meeting

## December 18, 2020

#### 10:00AM

Trustees Participating: Kate Brannon, Emmanuel Caudillo, Ana Hageage, Lori Kaplan, Juan Carlos Pereira

Absent Trustees: James Gaston, Justin Lofton, Linda Moore, Elizabeth Burrell

Staff Participating: Nicole Hanrahan

ITEM/SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	
		ACTION/PROPOSED
		ACTION
Motion to open the meeting		The virtual meeting was called to order at 9:18 a.m. by Lori Kaplan. A motion was made by Juan Carlos and seconded by Kate Brannon to open the meeting.
Purpose of meeting	To approve the CMO agreement update that was presented at the 12/3/20 board meeting	
CMO agreement approval vote	A motion to approve the CMO agreement with the Latin American Youth Center with a 5% increase. This takes the CMO agreement from \$167,000 to \$175,000.	A motion was made by Ana Hageage and seconded by Emmanuel and passed unanimously.
Meeting Adjournment		Meeting was adjourned at 9:31 am.

# **Board of Trustees Meeting**

## February 4, 2021

#### 6:15 PM

Trustees Participating: Elizabeth Burrell, Emmanuel Caudillo, Lori Kaplan, Linda Moore, Juan Carlos Pereira, Ana Hageage

Staff & Contractor Participating: Nicole Hanrahan, Mohammad Bashshiti (Building Hope)

ITEM/SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION/PROPOSED ACTION
Motion to open the meeting		The virtual meeting was
		called to order at
Financial Report	Mohammad Bashshiti presented the financial report for the period ending 1/31/2020	
Approval of meeting minutes		Liz Burrell presented a motion, seconded by Juan Carlos Pereira to approve the 12/3/20 board meeting minutes. The motion was passed unanimously. Emmanuel made a motion, seconded by Juan Carlos Pereira, to approve the 12/18/2020 minutes. The motion was approved unanimously with one abstention (Liz Burrell).
Executive Session	The regular board meeting was adjourned to enter an executive session for the purpose of considering a merit increase to Executive Director, Nicole Hanrahan, based on her most recent performance review. Lori Kaplan reviewed trustees' performance review ratings for Ms. Hanrahan and noted that she has met all goals.	Ana made a motion, seconded by Emmanuel, to award a 3% merit increase based on the performance review. The motion carried unanimously.  In addition, Lori Kaplan agreed to lead the board in a review of the school's employee benefit package.

Linda Moore made a motion to begin the salary increase for Ms. Hanrahan with the next pay period and to align her performance review with the new fiscal year, effective with school year 2021-22. The motion was seconded by Liz Burrell and was approved unanimously. Liz Burrell made a motion, seconded by Emmanuel to adjourn the Executive Session and resume the regular meeting of the board of trustees. 1. Nicole Hanrahan asked 1.Ms. Hanrahan will forward a **ED Update** description of needed trustee trustees to review their skillsets and experiences to annual goals and indicated board members. that the most urgent 2.Lori Kaplan will contact the priorities are securing IT World Bank about possible internships for students, internship placements. fundraising, raising the 3. For use in marketing and school's profile and recruiting securing placements, Nicole will additional trustees. request feedback from past and current internship sites about the quality of internship performance and descriptions of the specific tasks they performed. 4. Ms. Hanrahan will follow up on a suggestion made by Juan Carlos to have a school open house for representatives of prospective internship sites. 5. Trustees will contact these organizations about internship placements: Building Hope, World Wildlife Association, Martha's Table, DC Public Charter School Alliance, The

2.Re-opening Plan—The school is dedicated to getting back into the building as soon and as safely as possible. The antiracist and safe re-opening plan will offer onsite and virtual instruction. Ms. Hanrahan has been working with the landlord since summer 2020 to upgrade the HVAC system and will request completion by the end of March.

Approximately half of staff and faculty have received at least one Coronavirus vaccination.

While a number of services have been taking place at and within the school building since March 2020, (food distribution, tutoring, some in-person classes), the target date for reopening of the building for full-time instruction is April 19, 2021.

Surveys of students reveal that only half of the students report that they are prepared to return for full-time in-person or hybrid instruction on April 19, 2021. Among the reasons that students reported were: work conflicts, child care needs, fear of the virus because of prior loss of family and friends. Ms. Hanrahan is exploring whether stipends can be paid to students to encourage attendance.

Congressional Hispanic Caucus and Unidos.

Nicole will meet with the landlord to establish benchmarks and a timetable for completing the HVAC system update.

Building tentatively scheduled to re-open for instruction in April.

Discussion:

	Q. What is the planned response to students and staff who have vaccine hesitancy?  A. Few students meet eligibility requirements for vaccinations now. Students who work in medical settings are eligible. A medical professional will speak to employees at an upcoming staff meeting.	Ms. Hanrahan asked trustees to give feedback about the school's new PMF template.
Other Business	Trustees brainstormed prospective new trustees needed for the board:  • IT company representatives  • Lawyer  • Marketing and communications professional  • Healthcare professional  • African American prospective trustee	Nicole agreed to forward a list of hygiene items that trustees can donate and/or secure for students.
Motion to close the meeting	F. 35 P. 33 T. 3 T. 3 T. 3 T. 3 T. 3 T. 3 T.	Following a motion presented by Liz Burrell and seconded by Linda Moore, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm

## **Board of Trustees Meeting**

# April 22, 2021

#### 6:15 PM

Trustees Participating: Elizabeth Burrell, Lori Kaplan, Linda Moore, Ana Hageage, Kate Brannon

Staff & Contractor Participating: Nicole Hanrahan, Bernadette Kreh, Ivette Cruz, Jacqueline Fernandez, Mohammad Bashshiti

ITEM/SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION/PROPOSED ACTION
Motion to open the meeting		The virtual meeting was
		called to order at
Approval of meeting minutes		Liz Burrell presented a motion,
		seconded by Kate Brannon, to
		approve the 2/4/21 board
		meeting minutes. The motion
		was passed unanimously.
Financial Report	Kate Brannon led the	
	presentation on the financial	
	report for the period ending	
	2/28/21. Forecasted cash on	
	hand=257 days. Cash balance	
	at month's end=\$2.4 M.	
	Grant revenue is behind	
	budget due to timing of grant	
	reimbursements; lower than	
	budgeted expenses boosted	
	the bottom line to \$219K.	
	Debt ratio was 31%.	
Report on Re-opening	Jacqueline Fernandez	Cl
	summarized the academy's	
	experience with re-opening.	
	Re-opening began on April	
	19. There are 47 students in	
	cohort A and 48 in cohort B.	
	Bernadette Kreh discussed	
	the mitigation strategies that	
	are being used during re-	
	opening.	
	Opening.	

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	Kate asked whether there are	
	plans to continue virtual	
	instruction now that in-	
	person classes are being	
	offered and was told that	
	decisions on that question	
	have not been determined.	
Review of Board Member	Liz Burrell hopes to secure	
Goals	internships and to be more	
	present at the school.	
	Kate Brannon hopes to	
	secure internships and	
	computers.	
	Ana Hageage will work on	
	securing internships and to	
	work on advocacy.	
	Linda Moore will focus on	
	securing internships.	
ED update	Nicole Hanrahan reported	
·	that:	
	Students were provided with	
	the opportunity to process	
	the recent death of Ma'Khia	
	Bryant and the Derek	
	Chauvin verdict.	
	Chaaviii Veralet.	
	Attorney is open to meeting	Nicole will schedule meeting
	with the Governance	with attorney.
	Committee to discuss the	with accorney.
	options for reconciling the	
	school's by-laws with the	
	OMA.	
	OWA.	
	Policy update:	
	l oney apaate.	
	City Council will not vote on	
	the budget until July.	
	and budget until July.	
	Ms. Hanrahan and leaders of	
	other adult schools have	
	been lobbying for parity in	
	funding with K-12 schools.	
	<u> </u>	

	An adult education roundtable will be scheduled in the future.	
	Attendance rose by twelve points from November 2020 to March 2021.	
	Work in marketing, communications and fundraising is going well.	
	Trustees are invited to come to the campus sort groceries for four hours each month.	
Adjournment	Liz Burrell made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kate Brannon.	The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Financial Report: Kate Brannon led the presentation on the financial report.