

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

The Eugenio Maria de Hostos Charter School Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, March 26, 2024. Board Chairman Julio Vázquez called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. A quorum was established.

### **Board Members Present:**

Julio Vázquez, Dr. Marcia DeJesús-Rueff, Angélica Pérez-Delgado, Dr. Miriam Vázquez, Miguel Meléndez, Eugenio Marlin, Rosemary Johnson, and Gloria Soldevila

### **Board Members Absent:**

Ryan Caster

### **School Staff & Others Present:**

Sandra Chevalier-Blackman, Nikki Kersbergen, Wanda Serrano, Leslie Rivera, Morgan Krolak, Amy Schiavi, Ruben Perez, Solange George, and John Harris.

### **MISSION MOMENT:**

ELT Coordinator Ms. George presented the mission moment from the perspective of the ELT programs at the elementary and middle schools.

### **PUBLIC INPUT:**

No public input.

### **CHAIRMAN REPORT:**

#### **City Planning Commission:**

- Mr. Vázquez congratulated the CEO, Ms. Chevalier Blackman, and the staff for an excellent job done at City Hall. The planning board approved the plan for the school to move forward with the expansion project at the Joseph Campus.

#### **Board Retreat:**

- The board retreat was on March 12, 2024.
- The board discussed the renewal process, the renewal benchmarks, and the instructional priorities.

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT:**

#### **Enrollment:**

- Enrollment for February 995 students
- Enrollment for March 1000 students

#### **Attendance:**

- January's attendance was an average of 85%, and February's was 84%.

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

- K-8: Fastbridge 2<sup>nd</sup> Diagnostic
- College & Career Readiness Data
- 2020 Cohort Accountability

### **Operations:**

#### **Facilities and Operations**

- The Zimbrich staff restrooms received a “facelift.”
- Student restrooms should be completed during the Spring Break.
- Maintenance plan to address a few concerns before the SUNY Visit
  - Beautification of MS entry
  - Zimbrich Main entry

#### **Updates to IT infrastructure**

#### **Working on Facility Maintenance plan at the Zimbrich Campus**

- Painting and flooring

#### **Kodak Lease**

- The lease was signed and executed

#### **Expansion Project**

- The Planning Commission meeting was on March 25, 2024 at 5 pm
- 1119 Joseph Avenue
  - The structure will be demolished in 2025
  - Site testing and assessment were done on March 18<sup>th</sup>. The school is waiting for the results.
  - Final designs and plans to go out on April 28 for subcontracting and GMP
  - Weekly meetings will continue from 2:45 - 4 pm (as needed)

### **ELT Updates:**

#### **Before School:**

- Before school at the Zimbrich Campus, 83 students are enrolled, with 90% attendance

#### **After School**

- After School at the Zimbrich Campus, 86 students enrolled with 95% attendance
- After School at the Joseph Campus, 16 students enrolled with 67% attendance

#### **PTO**

- PTO was on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, and the topic was March Madness students vs. parents
- 42 families attended

### **CEO Updates:**

The following items were discussed during the CEO updates:

- Continuing staff/student recruitment & marketing
  - Lamar Advertising billboards located at various parts of the city
  - RTS Buses promoting Kinder recruitment and bilingual program
- Reviewing 2024-2025 school year contract renewals

- Sylvan Learning will provide Regents support for 12 high school students
- Planning for the new school year 2024-2025
- Student Athlete – add the different sport clubs

#### **ACADEMIC COMMITTEE REPORT:**

##### **SUNY Visit**

- SUNY will visit the school on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 pm to interview the board members.
- The board celebrates the school's graduation rate and applauds the graduation projected rate for this school year.
- Board members need to share all the great work that the school is doing.

#### **FINANCE MANAGER REPORT/FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

The Finance Committee met before the board meeting. Mr. Vázquez facilitated the meeting in Mr. Caster's absence.

##### **Financial Reports**

Ms. Kersbergen reviewed the financial statements for February 2024. Please see the attached report.

The Finance Committee presented the new financial software, Sage Intacct, for approval, which the auditors recommended for \$30,295.15. The cloud-based software allows auditors to view and retrieve information as needed. Mr. Vázquez moved the motion, which Ms. Pérez-Delgado seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

##### **ACTION ITEMS:**

The minutes of February's board meeting were presented for approval. Ms. Pérez-Delgado moved the motion, and Mr. Marlin seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

February's financials were presented for approval. Ms. Pérez-Delgado moved the motion, which Mr. Marlin seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

The amended policy and procedure for the Arrival Scanning Process and Parent/Student Handbooks were presented for approval. Mr. Marlin moved the motion, and Dr. Vázquez seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

##### **Building Committee:**

No new updates.

##### **Personnel Committee:**

- The Personnel Committee met on March 20, 2024. The items of discussion are as follows:
- Current Openings
  - The current teacher and para openings are due to family issues and mental health leave.
- Teacher Shortage

- An article from NYS was discussed, and information was shared that NYS will anticipate a shortage of 180,000 teachers within the next decade.
- EMHCS will continue to support the current teachers so we can develop and retain them.
- Offer opportunities for paraprofessionals to become teachers.
- Mentor high school students in choosing to enter the education career field after graduation.
- EAP
  - A program proposal to provide mental health, legal, and financial planning for staff was discussed.
  - The cost is \$1.03 per employee per month. The total annual expense for the school will be approximately \$2,500.00. EMHCS wishes to add this program to their current health plan.

The Personnel Committee presented the EAP program for approval. Dr. Vázquez moved the motion, and Mr. Marlin seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Governance Committee:**

A few board members are actively recruiting and have contacted several individuals to see if they are interested in joining the board. Two board seats need to be filled. At this time, there is no additional information.

### **Old Business**

No old business.

### **New Business**

No new business.

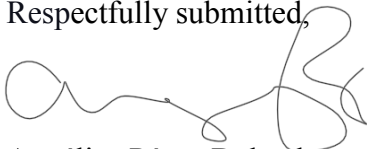
### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Vázquez requested a motion to adjourn the meeting with no other business to discuss. Ms. Pérez-Delgado moved the motion, and Mr. Marlin seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, April 30, 2024. It will be at the Administrative Office, 977 Joseph Avenue, conference room, Rochester, NY 14621.

Respectfully submitted,



Angélica Pérez-Delgado  
Board Secretary