

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

The Eugenio Maria de Hostos Charter School Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, September 27, 2022. Board Chairman, Mr. Julio Vázquez, called the meeting to order at 5:38 pm. A quorum was established.

### **Board Members Present:**

Julio Vázquez, Connie O. Walker, Eugenio Marlin, Robert Frasier Jr., Dr. Marcia DeJesús-Rueff, and Miguel Meléndez.

### **Board Member Absent:**

Ray Ciccarelli, Nelida Torres, Dr. Miriam Vázquez, and Angélica Perez-Delgado.

### **School Staff Present:**

Sandra Chevalier-Blackman, Nikki Kersbergen, Vincent Alexander, John Harris, Damaris Saltares, Wanda Adames, Matt Kleehammer, Laura Muñoz-Thompson, and Robert Zimmerli.

### **MISSION MOMENT:**

The elementary school presented the Mission Moment. The elementary theme for the 2022-2023 school year is "We Are World Changers." The elementary school showed a video of the various events that have been happening over the past couple of weeks.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

No public input.

### **CHAIRMAN REPORT:**

#### **CEO Evaluation**

The board will meet via Zoom on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, to finalize the CEO's evaluation.

### **CEO REPORT:**

#### **Enrollment:**

- July's enrollment was 963 students
- August's enrollment was 979
- There are currently 384 students on the waiting list, and 25 of them are in progress (waiting on the start date)

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

- NYSESLAT Exam Scores
- 3-8: NYS Math Exam Scores
- 3-8: NYS ELA Exam Scores
- 9-12: August Regents Exam Score

## **Student Programs/Community Initiatives Update:**

### **ELT Program**

- Before School Program began on September 6<sup>th</sup>
  - There are currently 75 students enrolled
  - Sports, Candle Making, Arts & Crafts, and Dance Fusion are various clubs.

### **Mentorship Program**

- Teacher Mentorship
  - There are presently ten mentors and 12 mentees
  - The first meet and greet are Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **PTO – Parent Board Nomination**

- October 11<sup>th</sup>

### **Other Events**

- **College & Career Readiness**
  - St John Fisher University visiting
- **Getting juniors and seniors ready to apply for voting**
- **Career Exploration Event**
  - Roc with your hands – Trade Opportunities
- **Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration**
  - The celebration is Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 – 6:30 pm at the International Plaza

### **Operations:**

#### **Church**

- There will be a tenant to occupy for October.
- The boiler claim has been approved, and the school received the check.

#### **Zimbrich Main Entry**

- Work began on September 19<sup>th</sup> and has been completed
- Paving will start at the administrative offices in Parking Lot A

#### **Covid 19 & Vaccines**

- Internal process for Affirmation of Isolation
- Weekly updates are being sent; COVID Liaison is up to date with the changes.

#### **Joseph Expansion**

- The proposal presentation from the three firms took place today, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### **CEO Updates:**

#### **The following items were discussed during the CEO Updates:**

- Staffing

- Professional Development
- Parent Engagement
- EMHCS 2022 Gala
- EMHCS Enrollment
- Finance and HR Updates
- Accountability Report

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

##### **Test Scores:**

- The 2022 test scores will be used as baseline data for the 2022-2023 school year.
- There will be a staffing discussion to assist in increasing the math scores.
  - The school is currently looking for a math coach.
  - The school currently has a good plan for improving test scores.
  - There is a lot of excitement for learning this school year.
- Graduation
  - The school has a 92% graduation rate.
- Staffing
  - The school is almost entirely staffed, and the campus schedules have been adjusted to accommodate more teaching.
  - There is professional development and a mentor program for teacher guidance and learning.

#### **CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT/FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

The Finance Committee met immediately before the board meeting and reviewed August's financial statements with Ms. Kersbergen and the rest of the committee. The 403B audit is almost completed; the documents have been submitted and are currently under review. There was a request for Mr. Ciccarelli's Advisory firm to shorten the 403B application. The form needs review and will be presented to Mr. Ciccarelli upon his return.

On September 13<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Walker, Ms. Kersbergen, Mr. Vázquez, and Ms. Blackman met with an M&T representative to discuss the school's account status and a possible proposal to increase interest on money in the school's current M&T accounts. At the Finance Committee meeting, the proposal was discussed and voted to recommend it to the entire board for approval and acceptance.

M&T Bank recommended that the school establish a sweep account. The sweep account will cost the school \$200 a month to maintain and potentially profit approximately \$2,000-\$3,000 a month. The interest rate quoted by the bank is 1.82%. The proposal will be accepted upon the contingent approval of Mr. Ciccarelli. Mr. Vázquez moved the motion, and Mr. Marlin seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously—contingent upon Mr. Ciccarelli's review and consent.

## **Financial Reports**

Ms. Nikki Kersbergen, Finance Manager, reviewed the financial statements as of August 31, 2022. Please see the attached reports.

The Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC) is a refundable tax credit designed to reward business owners for retaining employees throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The school will receive an Employee Retention Tax Credit for \$2,362,416.53.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

August's board meeting minutes were presented for approval. Mr. Marlin moved the motion, and Mr. Meléndez seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Building Committee**

#### **Joseph Expansion Proposals**

- The Building Committee met earlier today with the three prospective firms for the expansion at the Joseph Campus.
  - SWBR
  - Passero Associates
  - LaBella Associates
- Each firm shared its presentation, and the board was able to ask questions; after further discussion with the Building Committee, they recommended SWBR. They decided on SWBR because of their presentation and how they understood the school's needs.

Mr. Marlin moved the motion to hire SWBR to begin the planning process for the Joseph Campus expansion. Mr. Meléndez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Fundraising Committee:**

The school is finalizing the table payments, the guest list, and silent auction items, and the program has been sent for printing.

### **Personnel Committee:**

The Personnel Committee met, but the regular meeting will be postponed until Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Governance Committee:**

The Governance Committee met on September 8<sup>th</sup>. The duty is to renew the terms of trustees whose term expires, the recommendation for a slate, and the two parent board members. The Governance Committee will present the complete package during October's board meeting.

**Old Business**

No old business.

**New Business**

No new business.

**Executive Session**

No executive session.

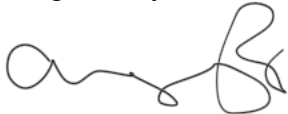
**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to discuss, Mr. Vázquez asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Marlin moved the motion, and Mr. Meléndez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next Board Meeting will meet on Tuesday, October 25, 2022; the meeting location will be at the Irondequoit Public Library at 1290 Titus Ave, Laurelton room 213, Rochester, NY 14617.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angélica Pérez-Delgado', written in a cursive style.

Angélica Pérez-Delgado  
Board Secretary