

**Opportunity Charter School  
Board of Trustees—Minutes  
March 18, 2021**

**Trustees Present:** Jon Sichel, Tasheem Quayenortey, June Smith, Eric London & Evena Everett (video conference)

**Absent:** Peggy Culver, Tracy Hampton and Melba Wilson

**Executive Staff Present:** Leonard Goldberg, Jessica Marcu, Kaitlin Francis, Sade McCaw & Emily Samuels

**Public Notification:** Notice of meeting sent to Amsterdam News for addition to Events Calendar in print editions (March 10, 2021), on OCS website (March 10, 2021). Attending Members of the Board of Trustees met via Google Meets at 12:00pm and was recorded for later transcription.

**Adoption of February Board of Trustees’ Minutes**

A vote to approve the minutes from the February 25, 2021 BOT meeting was taken with all in favor and no dissentions.

A discussion and vote to continue remote learning for the Middle School & High School was taken with all in favor with no dissentions.

The following are questions and items that were raised by Board members and addressed by Executive Staff.

- How is the current student attendance? Attendance has been, and continues to be, excellent during this period of remote learning. We have even seen improvement.
- Is there any consideration to “go hybrid” at this juncture? Due to limited space in the school building, we could only accommodate students that choose this option once a week in person. Those students would receive the exact same instruction in the building and remotely. Most of our students commute to school via public transportation and many come from areas of a high concentration of positive Covid cases, remaining remote reduces the risk exposure to both staff and students.
- The Board recommended that Administration provide information to the staff to encourage vaccination.

**OCS Report to the Board**

- OCS Report to the Board
  - Kaitlin Francis, High School Principal presented on the OCS Culture Team and Restorative Justice practices. The Board asked what steps the school is taking to address cultural responsiveness and the issues that are going on in the world today. Jessica Marcu, Head of

School, spoke about the Youth Communications Program that all students participate in weekly. This is a class where students meet with a trained adult to discuss such issues and are provided with social-emotional support. This support is also provided on an on going basis by grade level social workers and the school psychologist. The team is also preparing to respond to the needs of student when we do finally return to in-person instruction.

- Kasirer Update
  - Report on outreach to elected officials and DOE/SUNY/Board of Regents.
- Legislation Process
  - Kevin Quinn, WOH & Alex Spyropoulos, Kasirer

#### **Communication from the Public**

There were no communications from the public.

#### **Executive Session**

The Board moved to Executive Session to discuss Legal and Personnel Issues.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35pm.