

**CITY ON A HILL CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 6, 2009**

At City on a Hill Charter Public School, 58 Circuit St, Roxbury

Present: Joe Cali, Lee Delaney, Michael Grossman, Erica Jamison-Brown, Bobbie Knable, David Lane, Robert Mazzarella, Ginger Parker, Ryan Thornton, Stephen Kraus, Maurice Wright

Absent: Kevin Mohan

Chairman Mazzarella called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Board Updates and Votes

Moved to approve the minutes for the meeting held in February; seconded and carried unanimously.

Chairman Mazzarella informed the Board that the Summer Retreat will most likely be held on a Saturday in late July.

Development Report

Mr. Michael Grossman presented the Development Report.

Mr. Grossman stated that individual donations are up and that we have significantly expanded our individual donor base this year.

Mr. Grossman gave an update on this year's Gala. Chancellor Keith Motley has been secured as the Citizenship Award recipient. Nine corporate sponsors have pledged their support, eight of which are investment banks. Mr. Grossman stressed the need for diversification. Eight individual sponsors have been secured, exceeding this year's goal. Mr. Grossman estimated a conservative net of \$75K.

Mr. Grossman presented on foundation support. There is a \$114K deficit at this point. Taking a look at the probability scaled grant amounts which are currently pending gives us an additional \$120K for this year and about the same for FY10.

Trustees Committee

Mr. Stephen Kraus presented on the Trustees Committee.

Mr. Kraus summarized the major changes in the trustee job description: 80% attendance for board and committee meetings and adherence to the Board's "Give or Get" policy, securing a minimum of \$2,500 in annual contributions for the school. Discussion ensued; the job description will be voted upon at the May meeting.

The Trustees Committee has three current objectives: trustee and board evaluation, board leadership succession, and new board member identification and recruitment. They are seeking

members in the areas of public school leaders, school reform experts, non-profit leaders, business leaders, lawyers, and politicians, and are aiming for three new trustees in the next six months.

Finance Report

Mr. Joe Cali presented the Finance Report.

Mr. Cali reviewed budget assumptions that were used to create the FY10 budget and the first draft of the FY10 budget. The salary cuts include an elimination of 1.8 FTE teaching positions, 11 tutor positions, an education service position and a reduction in SpEd Consultation totaling \$294K. Significant activities, programs, facilities and operations cuts were made as well. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kraus moved to accept the board consensus on work done allowing Principal Erica Jamison-Brown to begin the hiring process for next year; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Accountability Plan

Ms. Jamison-Brown presented the draft of the accountability plan.

Ms. Jamison-Brown informed the Board that this plan was driven by teacher opinion. The major changes occurred as a result of a changing environment (ie: new biology MCAS test) and the opportunity to offset audacious goals with ones that will measure the progress made overtime. Discussion ensued; the accountability plan will be voted upon at the May meeting.