

**CITY ON A HILL CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
February 9, 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, Kevin Mohan, Ginger Parker, Ryan Thornton

Absent: Stephen Kraus, Maurice Wright

Chairman Mazzarella called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Board Updates and Votes

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

Chairman Mazzarella reviewed the Board Timelines in regard to the FY10 Budget, NEASC, and Charter Renewal.

Chairman Mazzarella requested that the Trustees contact him with possible days and times for the Summer Retreat.

Massachusetts Charter Association

Marc Kenen from the Massachusetts Charter Association presented on the current state of charter schools. He projects that there will be very little effect on the remaining two payments of FY09. Mr. Kenen projects a more significant cut for FY10. Although Chapter 70 funding and the per pupil facilities amount will be held at the current level, there will most likely be a significant cut in local aid. The final version of the Federal Stimulus Package and the state budget which will be released in April will each give a better idea of what FY10 funding will look like.

Mr. Kenen reviewed the Governor's proposal regarding raising the charter school cap. The Massachusetts Charter Association does not support raising the cap as the Governor's proposal stands with the current restrictions.

Finance Report

Mr. Joe Cali presented the Finance Report.

YTD

Mr. Cali stated that we are on our year to date target. Although the school's income is slightly below budget, the expenses are also below budget, making up the difference.

Forecast for Year End

Mr. Cali projected that there are no major risks to the budget at this time. Any reduction in the per pupil allocation and fundraising will most likely be counteracted by additional funding for the greater number of students than originally budgeted for, a reduction in operating expenses and a potential reduction in Gala expenses.

2010 Budget Process

Mr. Cali's key budget assumptions include a 10% reduction in per pupil allocation (\$344,500 impact), an equal level of enrollment (no impact), a 20% reduction in fundraising (\$136,000 impact), a 10% increase in rent (\$50,000 impact) and a \$70,000 bottom line reserve. These assumptions total \$600,500.

Mr. David Lane moved to accept these assumptions; further discussion ensued and the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Trustees Committee

Ms. Kim Wechtenhiser presented on the Trustees Committee.

The Trustees Committee made up of Ms. Wechtenhiser, Mr. Steve Kraus, and Mr. Kevin Mohan will have three main objectives: trustee evaluation, recruiting new board members, and preparing for board succession.

Development Report

Mr. Michael Grossman presented the Development Report.

Mr. Grossman stated that individual donations are strong but foundation support is down. As a result of this tough economic climate, Mr. Grossman emphasized to the Board of Trustees the importance of reaching out to their networks for individual, foundation, and corporate support.

Mr. Grossman led a discussion on how to decrease Gala expenses.

Academic Data

Chairman Mazzarella suggested that the Board of Trustees direct questions to Principal and Executive Director, Erica Jamison-Brown regarding academic data.

Executive Session

Mr. David Lane moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss security and contract issues and that the Board not convene to come back into Open Session. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously by roll-call vote.