

**CITY ON A HILL CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL and
THE CITY ON A HILL FOUNDATION, INC.
JOINT MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND
FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

October 4, 2010

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

Board of Trustees

Present: Erica Brown, Lee Delaney, Michael Grossman, Bobbie Knable, Robert Mazzearella, Kevin Mohan, Ginger Parker, Michael Rosen, Lori Stevens, Ryan Thornton, and Kim Wechtenhiser

Absent: Michelle Dipp and Aretha Miller

Board of Directors

Present: Josh Benet, Erica Brown, Cara Candal, Michael Grossman, Jeff Jacobs, Robert Mazzearella, Michael Rosen, and Ryan Thornton

Absent: Michael Duffy, Robert Fortes, Tripp Jones, and Debbie Porter

Board Updates and Votes

Chairman Robert Mazzearella called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

Mr. Mazzearella thanked Board Member Bobbie Knable for her years of service on the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Mazzearella introduced Lori Stevens of Citizen Schools to be voted in as the newest member of the Board of Trustees. Moved to approve Ms. Stevens. Seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Mazzearella introduced Cara Candal of Boston University to be voted in as the newest member of the Board of Directors. Moved to approve Ms. Candal. Seconded and carried unanimously.

Moved to approve the minutes for the Board of Trustees meeting held in May 2010. Seconded and carried unanimously.

Moved to approve the minutes for the Board of Directors meeting held in May 2010. Seconded and carried unanimously.

Moved to approve the Michael Grossman as the new Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees. Seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Mazzearella gave an update on The High Bar, consulting services to support the work of the Board of Trustees. The Board met with representatives last week; they will be developing goals for board over next couple of weeks.

Mr. Mazzarella announced that Board Member Aretha Miller will be taking over as chair of the Academic Committee for the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Mazzarella stated that they are working to increase the number of board members to 17 or 18.

Academic Update

Principal Dr. Paul Hays presented the Academic Update, noting that the Academic Committee has not yet discussed this data.

In 2010, 79% of students met or exceeded the state's proficient level in ELA, 84% in math, and 70% in science on MCAS. According to No Child Left Behind, 100% of students are required to meet or exceed the state's proficient level by 2014. The average scaled ELA MCAS scores were 23% higher than the average scaled 8th grade ELA MCAS scores for the cohort and the average was 70% higher in math. CoaH's accountability plan requires a 10% increase.

City on a Hill made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in both ELA and math.

School Council Report

Parent Representative to School Council, Lauren Thompson, presented the School Council Report. The School Council saw deficiencies in how the NEASC Self-Study Critical Strengths and Needs were determined: the parent survey was only given in English and did not reflect a balance between strictness and empowerment (discipline policies, etc.). She stated that the issues will be addressed once the visit is complete.

Development Report

Vice-Chair Michael Grossman presented the Development Report. This year's gala will be held Tuesday, May 3 at the Harvard Club. Strategies are being pursued to get more corporate sponsorships for this year. The tentative plan for the next Winthrop Society event will include a screening of *Waiting for Superman*, most likely at the school.

Finance Report

Treasurer Ryan Thornton presented the Finance Report. Overall, the auditors were happy with the progress made over the year. Executive Director Erica Brown immediately rectified identified the two problems identified by the auditors: a CORI check never completed and credit card statements not accompanied by receipts.

The finance office transitioned from a part-time to a full-time accounting consultant and hired a new Business Manager.

Motion to approve City on a Hill Charter Public School's audit. Seconded and carried unanimously.

Motion to approve The City on a Hill Charter Foundation's audit. Seconded and carried unanimously.

Ryan reported the following:

- The finance committee is looking to do a capital needs assessment.
- City on a Hill currently has 294 students enrolled but will only be paid for 280.
- The August close is completed and on target.
- The School Income Statement is off because some of the pre-spending from FY10 was not actually booked until FY11.
- The Foundation Balance Sheet cash is way down because the Foundation paid down the mortgage against the Grand Circle Foundation pledge which is expected over the next three years.
- Overall, the quality of bottom line numbers is very good, and the state has published a 3% increase in tuition numbers for the first payment.

Strategic Planning Report

Trustee Kevin Mohan presented the Strategic Planning Report. The committee selected the option of opening another high school as a replication plan. They intend to submit a charter application in August 2011 and are currently creating a backwards timeline. Questions for the Board include whether this would be an expansion or a new charter and whether the schools would be governed by one or two boards. Mr. Mohan asked for the Board to contact him or Ms. Brown with any feedback.