



Brooklyn Urban Garden Charter School

Board of Trustees Meeting

March 26, 2024

6:41 pm - 8:00 pm

Brooklyn Urban Garden Charter School, 500 19th Street, Brooklyn, NY (quorum in person, with other members on the phone)

<https://meet.google.com/iww-pkee-pye> +1 470-250-1672 PIN: 639951412#

Members Present: Regina Fechter, Erin Walker

Members Remote: Jamal Deek, Adam Drucker, Christine Kang

Others present: Susan Tenner (BUGS Executive Director), Rasheed Bility (remote), John Johnston (VP PTA. Remote), Betty Feibusch, Jennifer Ramos, Dr. Michelle Penn, Linda Timko Liang

I. Welcome and Approval of the Minutes

- Regina Fechter called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm.
- Erin Walker motioned to approve the February 2024 minutes. Adam Drucker seconded. All members approved.
- Mission moment: board members and visitors walked about the classroom and connected to the 7th grade math space, leaving notes to teachers on their noticings and appreciation of the learning environment.

II. Ed & Accountability – Erin gave an update on behalf of the committee.

Erin shared year-over-year comparisons in ELA and Math. The data was better in ELA than in math.

We are in our 2nd year of implementing a Standards-Based Learning approach. The data continues to help us to inform the curriculum, instruction, and assessment. We are getting stronger students when looking at data from a baseline perspective, but we are also growing those students. ELLs continues to be a gap in recruitment, with only a few ELL students.

III. Finance Committee: Jamal Deek provided an update.

- Focus for the committee in the future is to have even more collaboration with the Ed & accountability committee so we can be aligned on resources and educational priorities. The school is currently looking at 2 options for the 24-25 salary matrix.
- Financial reports showed strong cashflow and liquidity overall.
- From July 2023 – Feb 2024, our projections have been revised slightly up to a \$60K surplus.
- Enrollment cap remains at 100% (And we are at 323 students).
- The school has a grant (related to government Covid funding) that we will not have next year and in future years. All schools are planning for this drop-off in funding.

There was a broader discussion about what can be done to support student growth, including plans to add a math specialist or instructional coach, and what would have an impact on this year's , next year's, and/or longer term outcomes in student growth.

IV. Gov Nom reported out by Regina Fechter.

- Board recruitment continues to be a top priority
- Goal is to have 100% board participating in fundraising, which we are very close to
- Strategic Plan is complete and being used to guide the leadership team for this year

There was discussion around space sharing challenges.

John Johnston shared 2 advocacy initiatives that could help provide the school with additional public funding: One that was related to Security Services for charter schools and another related to facility funding.

Public Comment – there was no public comment.

At 8:05pm Regina made a motion to go into Executive Session for a confidential Human Resources matter, and Erin seconded the motion. Visitors then left the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:28p.