

MINUTES OF THE
FEBRUARY 15, 2024, MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
UNIVERSITY PREP CHARTER SCHOOL
VIDEO CONFERENCE: ZOOM MEETING ID: 815 5002 2302 Passcode: BRONX

A meeting of the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) of the University Prep Charter Schools (the “Schools”) was held on Thursday, February 15, 2024, remotely via video conferencing. Trustees Steve Barr, Justin Pasternak, Burt Sacks and Miguel Suarez were in attendance. Also in attendance were executive director Andrea d’Amato; principals Andrew Ayers and David Patterson; assistant principals Nathaniel Bouie and Denise Rodriguez, Director of Operations Jahmal Carter, Svetlana Gnesia of CBSM, and Diane Peete of Future Is Now Schools.

Steve Barr presided and called to order at 5:07 pm (Eastern Daylight Time).

The board meeting agenda was adopted with flexibility.

Motion to approve the meeting minutes of the February 15, 2024, meeting. Motion adopted.

Executive Director Report

A shooting in a park near the area the middle school girls’ softball team was practicing occurred. School staff ushered the students to safety without any incidents. Parents were notified immediately. Local law enforcement made an arrest.

Student Data Update

- High School

- High School Enrollment Update

- 423 enrolled students

- High School Data

- 61% of all students are passing all of their classes
 - 39% of students are failing two of more classes
 - 111 General Education
 - 48 SPED
 - 6 ENL
 - 33.3% of SPED students are passing all of their classes
 - 66.7% of SPED students are failing two of more classes
 - 76% of ENL students are passing all of their classes
 - 24% of ENL students are failing two of more classes

- High School Attendance

- Students Average Daily Attendance is 91%
 - School Staff had 69

- Middle School

- Middle School Enrollment Update

- 367 enrolled students
 - 77.1% of all students are passing all of their classes
 - 22.9% of all students are failing two of more classes

- 27 General Education
- 14 SPED
- 2 ENL
- 68.1% of SPED students are passing all of their classes
- 31.9% of SPED students are failing two or more classes
- 76.5% of ENL students are passing all of their classes
- 23.5% of ENL students are failing two or more classes

Middle School Attendance

- Students Average Daily Attendance is 94%
- School Staff had 57 Absences

Alumni Event

On Tuesday, June 18, 2024, hosting inaugural alumni event. Alumni from the first graduating class of 2012 through class of 2023 will be invited. The board is invited to attend.

Graduation is on Thursday, June 27, 2024.

UP High School Update

The report has been held until the March 21, 2024, meeting. The board requests information on college acceptance rates.

UP Middle School Update

Principal David Patterson and Assistant Principal Denise Rodriguez provided the Board with an update.

The past month our students have completed Quarter 2 with 90 of our students achieving Honor Roll. We have kicked off our Saturday Academy program with the highest number of students in attendance we have ever had. We have incentivized attendance with a trip to Great Adventures. We have also completed three blocks of our Super Bock Math Fridays where our students participate in an extended math class period to prepare for their Math State exam. Our math teachers have been working diligently along with our consultant Ally from LaVinia to carefully plan and structure the lessons for the math classes. Our students also took their second Interim Assessments using a Computer Based format. This assessment was very successful in helping us prepare for our CBT state exams as we now know what might be some challenges our students may face.

This month we are celebrating Black History Month with our annual Black History Month townhall tomorrow and we are also about to end spirit week tomorrow. Students have been able to participate in wearing their African and Caribbean flags/colors, wear valentine's day colors, dress like their favorite black artist, activist, or icon from history, and black out day. Students also participated in a trivia Kahoot where they demonstrated their knowledge of influential African Americans.

Thank you to Dr. Bouie for organizing our Snowboarding experience for our students. Students were able to enjoy five Fridays of snowboarding and skiing.

Our girls' basketball team is playing at the semifinals tonight and if they win they will be heading to the finals. Tomorrow select chess students will be attending a chess tournament at Yankee stadium and this event is sponsored by our physical education teacher Mr. Sulaiman's organization Project Pawn.

When we return from break, we will be kicking off our Spring Later Gator program with 35 clubs. Some of our newest clubs include tennis, capoeira, Gator robotics, badminton, Baila (Latin dancing), and the comic book project.

Middle School Facilities

Pursuing an opportunity on Grand Concourse, which is a ground up construction project. Discussion with the building owner and developer are in progress. Discussions include finding other tenants as the building offers more space than is needed by the schools.

The BSA board would have to approve relocating the schools as the building is not zone for school.

Budget and Finance

Svetlana Gnesina of Charter Business School Management provided the trustees with an update on the system's financial health. As of January 31, 2024, projected net operating revenues are \$24.2 million with a \$200K surplus. Student enrollment is lower than projections by 30 students. The current balance sheet shows \$8.7 million cash in the bank. The fiscal reports include cash flow projections through year-end.

The board unanimously approved the submission of the 2023 990 form as presented.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon duly made, seconded, and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Barr, Chairman of the Meeting