



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**MINUTES: Regular Meeting September 28, 2021**

Maureen Hulings on behalf of Board President Andrew Nyaboga called to order the Regular Meeting of the Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School Board of Trustees (DLEACS) on September 28, 2021 via Electronic Zoom Meeting at 5:33pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

<b><i>TRUSTEES</i></b>	<b><i>Present</i></b>	<b><i>Absent</i></b>
ANDREW NYABOGA		X
JOSEPH DI FEO	X	
PHYLLIS FASONE	X	
JOHN SEAZHOLTZ	X	
EUGENE SQUEO	X	
PATRICIA MADISON		X
KEITH DAVIS	X	
SHARON SANTANA	X	

Also Present:

- Christopher Garlin, CEO
- Brian Falkowski, SBA Board Secy.
- Maureen Hulings, Recording Secy.
- James Brewer, Principal
- Jeffrey Mohr, Assistant Principal
- Valerie Slack, Administration
- Francis Schiller, General Counsel

Maureen Hulings called for a Motion to approve the Minutes of the August 24, 2021 Regular Meeting:

Vote: 5-0    1 Abstain    2 absent

Maureen Hulings asked if there were any public speakers; she then called for a Motion to close Public Speaking;

**Vote: 6-0 2 Absent**

Phyllis Fasone: the Finance Committee reviewed the Bill List and July & August SBA reports; Brian answered all questions satisfactorily; he advised that Playworks has always been paid in full upfront, Board suggested that a partial payment should be made for the services rendered to date; Brian discussed payment policy to other vendors; Phyllis recommended approval by the Board;

Board President Nyaboga arrived.

Maureen Hulings called for a Motion to approve Bill List & SBA Reports

**Vote: 7-0 1 Absent**

Maureen Hulings asked if there were any questions on Principal's Monthly Reports; None.

Valerie Slack discussed enrollment status; June 30<sup>th</sup> 388 today 379; 12 families waiting for transcripts and paperwork; if all come in total enrollment 391; the 12 can not enroll until they receive transfer paperwork from previous school; very challenging; received 5 transfer slips today, they will be in the system tomorrow; most of school's transfers either left the state or moved to other parts of NJ, only 2 left for other reasons; next count date is October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Gene Squeo advised Board that he & Chris Garlin met with Drs. Doria & Webster from SPU; that the current school year will be an evaluation period; that we received resumes and job descriptions for both SPU advisors; cost for both is \$40,000 total; target date to start is October 15<sup>th</sup>; Brian confirmed that we can use Cares Act money; Gene feels school and SPU are on the same wave length; that there is the potential to be productive; John Seazholtz asked principal if he was involved in these discussions with SPU; Principal: will be involved once agreement is finalized; Chris Garlin: we need to form an exploratory committee consisting of Andrew Nyaboga, Gene Squeo & Chris Garlin.

Maureen Hulings asked for a Motion to close the Regular Meeting and to go into Executive Session;

**Vote: 7 – 0 1 absent**

BOARD returned to Regular Session.

General Counsel Schiller advised personnel matters were discussed during Ex Session.

Maureen Hulings asked if anyone had any questions on Resolution No. 9/21/1 Approve New Hires Stephanie Anton as Coordinator of Student Life, Antoinette Lucas as Guidance Counselor, Rhea Benn as Special Education Teacher & Isaira Pena as Teacher Assistant for the 2021-2022 SY; she then called for a Motion to Approve Resolution No. 9/21/1

**Vote: 7 – 0 1 absent**

Maureen Hulings asked if there was any new business;

Phyllis Fasone asked Asst. Principal Jeffrey Mohr if we were finished with I Ready diagnostics; Jeffrey: grades 1-8 90% and Kindergarten would start on October 4; John Seazholtz asked if he had any sense of the results; at this time he is looking at completion; Joe DiFeo asked when Board would receive results; by the October meeting; Phyllis asked if new students were tested; can not be tested until State ID issued with transfer (students new to the school); Phyllis asked if Lavinia was working with the Teachers; Principal: 6-8 times already; she asked if teachers had any issues with Lavinia; none expressed nothing negative; packets for parents would be given on October 14<sup>th</sup>; parents will be able to go in and see My Path for individual students; Principal and Asst. Principal will be meeting with Cathy McCormick regarding goals; Gene Squeo said IReady potential sounds exciting; Principal/Asst. Principal: Start Strong testing begins October 4; 2 – 3 weeks later reports will be given to parents for individual students; Joe DiFeo asked Chris Garlin the status of Covid in the school; 1 Teacher quarantined for 10 days; Principal: 1 student did not come into the school building prior to school starting; was hospitalized, Principal will get info on status of student; Joe Difeo asked if there was any Union update; None; Attorney recommends just leave it alone and wait; John Seazholtz asked Brian if Audit went to the State; yes and Board must accept and approve.

Maureen called for a Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting

**Vote: 7 – 0 1 absent**

*Next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday October 26, 2021- @ 5:30pm via Electronic Zoom Meeting or in the alternative at the Maher Learning Center located at 513 Bramhall Avenue, Jersey City, NJ*

Meeting adjourned at 6:27pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'JF' or similar, with a large loop on the right side.