

**KINGSTON HILL ACADEMY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES**

August 20, 2014

5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Dr. John Nazarian, Ms. Helen Morcos, Ms. Anne Considine, Ms. Debra Deion, Ms. Anne Kuzminsky, Ms. Linda Paolillo, Ms. Lorraine Melillo and Dr. Lionel Murray

Members Absent: Ms. Johnna Bicknell, Dr. June Groden, Ms. Lisa Davis and Mr. Rob Raposo

Recording Secretary: Ms. Linda Ollari

Dr. Nazarian called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes from June 25, 2014 Meeting

Dr. Nazarian requested a motion to approve the minutes from the June 25, 2014 Board meeting. The motion was made, was seconded and passed unanimously.

2. Parent Comments/Staff Comments

None

3. Update on Memorandum of Understanding with Picerne Development with Respect to Potential Extension of Public Water to Kingston Hill Academy – Attorney Christopher Little

Attorney Little reported that he relayed the Board's requests to Picerne Development's attorney as outlined in the previous minutes, but has not heard back from them yet. Ms. Considine reported that plans/designs already exist for a soccer field and could be used if needed. Dr. Nazarian requested a motion to receive Attorney Little's report. The motion was made, was seconded and passed unanimously.

4. Follow-Up from Election of Trustees on June 25, 2014

a. Extend Anne Considine Term to 2017

Ms. Considine is agreeable to the extension of her term to 2017.

b. Contact Lisa Davis Regarding her Term

Ms. Morcos will contact Ms. Davis.

5. CEO Report – Ms. Helen Morcos

a. Financial Report

As of June 30, 2014, the preliminary financial report reflects a deficit of \$41,000. Dr. Nazarian requested a motion to receive the preliminary financial report for year ending June 30, 2014. The motion was made, was seconded and passed unanimously.

b. Budget

Ms. Morcos distributed the budget for 2015 that reflects a deficit of \$160,000. The deficit is due mostly to lower tuitions, the high cost of care for children with special needs, reduction in state aid, and increase in salaries. The Board members discussed how to avoid budget deficits in future years. Ms. Morcos explained that KHA's potential building expansion will increase revenue pending the approval of the Board of Education to the amendment to KHA's charter. The League of Charter Schools is working on changes that should positively affect school revenue. Ms. Paolillo stated that she will be applying for a grant from the RI Foundation. Ms. Kuzminsky requested talking points be prepared for the Board members so that they can address these issues when speaking with community members and politicians. Dr. Murray made a motion to reapply

\$160,000 from KHA's operational fund balance to balance KHA's FY2014-2015 budget. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Ms. Deion made a motion to accept KHA's 2014-2015 budget as amended. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

c. Update on Capital Improvement

Ms. Morcos had no update at this time pending the approval of the submitted amendment to the Charter, the outcome of the water project, and the housing aid request.

6. Update on Transportation – Ms. Linda Paolillo

An open discussion meeting was held with parents and Ocean State, the new transportation company. Everyone seems to be working through the new process quite well. To date, KHA has lost 5 families who noted that transportation was an issue for them. Routes/bus stops are being updated on an ongoing basis. Also, parents can now drop off their children at KHA at 7:45am instead of 8:00am.

7. Principal's Report – Ms. Linda Paolillo

a. Update on Request for Minor Charter Amendment

There was no response from RIDE within the 14-day timeframe to the original letter requesting a minor charter amendment. A second letter was sent to RIDE asking for confirmation that they were in agreement with our request. RIDE responded to the second letter stating that they consider KHA's request to be a major modification, and that they would follow up with a few questions. RIDE also stated that they felt the request would be granted.

b. Update on RIDE Classification of KHA

Ms. Paolillo had not received an answer regarding KHA's change of classification to Leading. Ms. Paolillo distributed two documents regarding school classifications. There is no word yet how schools will be scored with PARC which is coming up in the spring. Lessons learned from PARC field tests will come out in the fall.

8. Proposed Meeting Dates for 2015 – Dr. Nazarian

Dr. Nazarian proposed meeting dates for 2015: January 7, March 25, May 13, June 24, July 29 (if necessary), August 19, October 14, and December 9. A motion was made to accept the proposed meeting dates for 2015. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Dr. Nazarian reported that he would not be able to attend the October 15, 2014 meeting. The Board members agreed to change the October 15 meeting date to October 1, 2014.

9. Adjournment

Ms. Paolillo extended an open invitation to all Board members to visit KHA anytime to observe the teachers and children during a typical school day.

The motion to adjourn was made, was seconded, and passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Next meeting date: October 1, 2014 (changed from October 15, 2014)

Public Contact Information:

Linda Ollari
401-274-6310

lollari@grocenter.org