

**SouthSide Elementary Charter School
126 Somerset Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02907**

March 16, 2015

INTRODUCTION: The Board meeting of the SouthSide Elementary Charter School was held at 5:00 pm on March 16, 2015.

QUORUM: Present – Officers/Members: Eileen Hayes, Judy Ryan, Francisco Velazquez, Kristen Vito, Jessica Chaffee, Leslie Kane, Al Speaks, Jr., Carmen Rodriguez, Leah Williams Metts, Kas DeCarvalho. Not present: Raphael Diaz, Lela Morgan, Julie Casimiro, Antoinette Gomes, Ava Vanech

I. GENERAL SESSION:

A. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the January meeting were reviewed and motion made and approved.

B. GENERAL MATTERS

1. Ms. Vito presented review of academics in classroom. Measuring literacy and math skills. Graphs are at 90 percent – a high bar for achievements. Ms. Vito did graphs based on own measures to measure and target a more realistic assessment of student's needs. Started daily tutoring based on data to achieve gains. The students are exceeding expectations.

2. Update and discussion of upcoming lottery.

4. Discussion of summer learning loss. Ms. Vito working to obtain grants to enable students to attend summer prep.

B. FINANCE REPORT

1. Dan Corley discussed the budget. Right on target. Discussed fundraising and development. Requested Board donations by next meeting. Goal is 100% participation.

C. BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Kas did a thorough and informative presentation on Board Best Practices (with handout). Non-profit Boards generally use a mission to guide the tasks of the Board and its members. Each member has a “duty of care.” The Executive Director has supervisory capacity to parse out tasks and handle large bucket items, including oversight of operations such as employee policies and programming. Fiscal responsibilities include focus on funding, remaining on budget, and ensuring that money is spent appropriately. Boards should tap into the unique skill sets of its members and figure out the best “use” of each member and take a proactive stance on the member’s skills and talents. As he put it, “passivity is the enemy of Boards.” Kas also noted that Board Members should focus outside of the organization and work to be stewards of the community, focusing on PR efforts and fundraising. He discussed conflicts of interest and avoiding any appearance of impropriety. Bylaws and minutes and strict adherence to state standards is a necessity. Kas also discussed the engagement in legislative functions and that Board members are immune from suits while serving as a member in a proper purpose.

III. ADJOURNMENT

1. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Eileen Hayes,
Chair _____ date: _____

Antionette Gomes, Vice
Chair _____ date: _____

Leslie Kane,
Secretary _____ date: _____

Al Speaks, Jr., Interim
Treas. _____ date: _____