

Broome Street Academy Charter High School

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held in person and by video conference.

Date: Wednesday, August 16, 2023

Notice of the meeting was duly given to members of the Board and the public.

Trustees in attendance: Cathy Aquila, Lauren Blum, Monica de la Torre, Katie Jaxheimer Agarwal, Jeffrey Katzin, Fernando Snowden-Lorence, Alex Wood, and David Zurndorfer

Also present: Josh Hanna (minutes), Derek Jones, Kelsey Louie, Amanda Marmol, and Felecia Rowe (minutes)

The meeting was called to order at 9:06am, with a quorum.

#### Approval of the Minutes of July 18, 2023 Board Meeting

The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2023 Board Meeting.

#### Head of School (HOS) Report

Mr. Jones reported on the summer credit recovery program, enrollment, the new student bridge program, hiring, the 2023 HOS areas of focus, and professional development.

The Summer Credit Recovery program took place between July 31 and August 15. During the first week, an average of 60 students attended the program and forty students are positioned to earn at least one credit for the session. Six teachers participated in the program. Mr. Jones reported that the school will allow students to recover credits throughout the year with Ms. Huffin leading the initiative. Students will be required to take exams for courses through Edgenuity. All exams will be taken with a teacher present to ensure the integrity of the results.

Mr. Jones provided an update on the enrollment.

As of August 15:

- 160 students enrolled at BSA in 2022 stated that they plan to return
- 221 new students were accepted
- 185 of the 221 students have completed the registration process

Mr. Louie reported that attrition before the start of the School Year can fluctuate between 10-20%. To reduce that attrition rate, returning and new students BSA students have been invited to various Door events over the summer to keep them engaged.

Mr. Jones reported on the New Student Bridge program. The program will occur on August 31 and September 1 to introduce new students to The Door's programming, set expectations around academics and discipline, and distribute additional resources such as technology and metro cards.

Ms. Marmol reported that there are ten parents/caregivers committed to attending an orientation to meet key stakeholders at BSA. These parents/caregivers will receive updates on back-to-school night, award ceremonies, and information on opportunities for parents/caregivers to get involved.

Mr. Jones reported on vacant positions. Currently, the vacant positions at BSA are:

- Math teacher
- Chemistry teacher
- Director of Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
- Assistant Director of Operations and Recruitment

The position of Director of SEL will be offered to an internal candidate, which will create a vacancy for a School Social Worker position.

Mr. Jones reported on the 2023 Head of School's Areas of Focus. The key points include:

- Developing a data-driven and student-centered mindset
- Cultivating a school culture of professionalism and respect
- Focusing on student engagement in instruction
- Strengthening collaboration with BSA families and the broader community

Mr. Jones reported on Professional Development. New staff will arrive on August 21. All staff will meet from August 23 through August 30 to develop their priorities for the school year and class preparation.

#### Update on Door's Executive Team's Work with BSA

Mr. Louie reported that The Door's Executive Team discussed ways in which they can support the new Head of School and BSA more effectively and more productively in the year ahead. Collaboration meetings will continue to be held to ensure BSA students have access to Door services.

#### Schedule of Future Board Meeting

Mr. Zurndorfer reported on the Board of Trustees meeting dates and times for the upcoming year. He also shared that a few Board meetings will be held at the Invus offices thanks to The Door Board Chair, Benjamin Felt.

#### Student Utilization of Door Services During 2022-23 School Year

Mr. Louie discussed the Student Utilization Report. Overall, 209 of 299 (70%) BSA students received services at The Door. Mr. Louie highlighted the following:

- 131 unduplicated BSA students engaged in health related counseling, education groups, and activities
- 100% of BSA students referred for psychiatric care received support
- 8 unduplicated BSA students received mental health counseling
- All BSA staff received Harm Reduction and De-escalation trainings
- 53 unduplicated BSA students engaged in The Door in-house arts programming
- 5 BSA students were involved in the Youth Arts Council (YAC)
- The Career services Advance and Earn program provided 103 services to 6 unduplicated BSA students
- All students (except those with chronic absenteeism) received age-appropriate post-secondary readiness programming

Mr. Louie reported that the number of students who take the SATs has declined because most colleges no longer require the SATs as part of the admissions process as a result of studies showing that the test is inherently biased.

### The Door's Bronx Youth Center Ribbon Cutting

Mr. Louie reported that Board members are invited to attend the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on September 18 to celebrate the opening of The Door's new 18,000 square foot Bronx Youth Center (BYC). The BYC currently offers Career Advance Services and will expand to offer Mental Health Services, Legal Services, Food and Nutrition Counseling, Arts programming, and other Door services. The Door decided not to offer health services or a charter school in the Bronx after a community needs assessment found that the Bronx is saturated with health centers and charter high schools.

### BSA Website

Mr. Louie announced the soft launch of the new BSA website. He asked the Board to review the website and provide any feedback to improve the website.

### Departure of Meredith Soffrin

Meredith Soffrin, the Senior Director of Social Services, resigned effective August 11. Danielle Glantz, current BSA social worker, will be promoted into this position.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17am.