

Board of Trustees—Minutes
November 16, 2023

Trustees Present: Jon Sichel, Tasheem Quayenortey, Tracy Hampton, June Smith, Eric London & Evena Everett (video conference)

Absent: Peggy Culver, Basil Smikle & Rodney Capel

Executive Staff Present: Leonard Goldberg, Emily Samuels, Jessica Marcu, Joanne Hazel, Sade McCaw & Gail Edwards

Public Notification: Notice of meeting sent to Amsterdam News for addition to Events Calendar (November 7, 2023) and added to OCS website (November 7, 2023). Attending Members of the Board of Trustees met via Zoom at 5:30pm.

Adoption of October Board of Trustees' Minutes

A vote to approve the minutes from the October 19, 2023 BOT meeting was taken with all in favor and no dissensions.

OCS Report to the Board

- Leonard Goldberg, CEO
 - Joanne Hazel, Middle School Principal and Interim High School Principal, presented on the following:
 - Respect Week
 - Respect Week-Promoted World Kindness Day, instill a sense of community and collaboration in the whole school. Middle School Student Council facilitated the event focusing on respect, empathy and conflict resolution. Non-student council members are now looking for opportunities to get involved in future endeavors.
 - NYS Senator Cordell Cleare Visit-Moved to December
 - Homogeneous “We Do It for the Culture” SEL Program Groups
 - Students were surveyed and results showed the desire for homogeneous groups for the program. These changes will be instituted in January.
 - Human Resources Update-Gail Edwards, Director of Human Resources
 - OCS had 16 vacancies this school year that were filled.
 - This year OCS hired Kiwi, a company based in New York, to utilize their HR services to recruit. Kiwi provided a dedicated recruitment specialist who worked 16 hours per week to source candidates.
 - In addition, we engaged with a company called Connect US. Connect US is an international employment agency based in New York City that recruits teachers from other countries who are looking to relocate to New York. We hired 3 teachers as a result of recruitment through Connect US (2 from Jamaica and one from England).

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Executive Session

The Board moved to Executive Session to discuss Legal and Personnel Issues.

Communication from the Public

There were no communications from the public.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.