

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF CULTURAL ARTS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Cultural Arts Academy Charter School was held at 1400 Linden Boulevard, Brooklyn, New York 11212 on October 21, 2019.

IN ATTENDANCE: Henry Clouden III, Treasurer  
Shirley A Glasgow, Secretary  
Cheryl Pemberton-Graves, Vice-President  
Chrysetta Patterson, Member  
Dr. AR Bernard, President (via phone)  
Dr. Laurie B. Midgette, Principal

### **VOTE**

The financial statements of Cultural Arts Academy Charter School were prepared by Stuart Sabal and presented by Henry Clouden, Treasurer. The Board reviewed related statements of activities and cash flows for one month, with the accompanying supplemental information. These statements were discussed in detail. There is sufficient cash to fund monthly operations.

**RENEWAL EXPECTATIONS (NYCDOE)** - The school leader and core instructional leadership team must receive ongoing intensive training and support from an outside entity

- This should include succession planning and cultivation of members of the leadership team.
- The outside entity and the leadership team should, in partnership, create a plan for school improvement.
- New board members must be recruited.

### **PRESENTATION OF THE CAACS RENEWAL ACTION PLAN**

#### **The School Model**

As a result of earning two rigorous global designations as an International Baccalaureate (IB) World and Franklin Covey Lighthouse School; whose core program also includes the Arts, Cultural Arts Academy Charter School has a model that requires more staffing than a traditional model, i.e., *IB and Leader In Me Coordinators*. CAACS also subscribes to Whole Child Development Model (ASCD).

#### **Budgetary Programming**

Our budgetary programming results in habits and practices that minimize the focus on narrowly defined academic achievement to ones that promote the development of the whole child: a child who is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged. As evidenced by our independent audits, at least 84-88 percent of our budget is consistently spent on the needs of the children. The essential question for our next charter is: How can we make Cultural Arts Academy Charter School a more fiscally independent and sustainable model, while simultaneously ensuring efficient staff capacity needed for our scholars to achieve exemplary

NYS Next Generation Standards proficiency that meets or exceeds the local district, while minimizing burnout and attrition and within budget?

### **The Renewal Plan**

The CAACS Board of Trustees and School Leadership seeks to propose and implement a plan for the renewal of Cultural Arts Academy Charter School at Spring Creek (CAACS) as a charter school located in Brownsville, Brooklyn serving grades K-5. According to our NYCDOE authorizers, this plan is necessary because Cultural Arts Academy Charter School at Spring Creek may be at risk of non-renewal due to academic underperformance on NYS Assessments, particularly in mathematics. The CAACS Board of Trustees agreed that this plan for the next proposed charter term is the best path forward to support our scholars; and, the Board believes that the outlined strategies can be accomplished by the CAACS Principal in the short term with impactful, long-term results.

The CAACS Renewal Plan will address ongoing academic concerns by requiring implementation of a new educational program and strengthening existing instructional leadership with intensive professional learning. It will also ensure that families in Brownsville/East New York, and particularly those students enrolled in CAACS continue to have access to a community-based school, which is much needed as this community has few educational options. The most immediate change is the implementation of the following new staffing plan. The CAACS Renewal Plan will also include adding a new member of the current Board of Trustees that will strengthen fiscal sustainability and a revised educational program that will achieve charter accountability goals.

Submitted – Shirley A. Glasgow, Board Secretary