

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
AMANI PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

April 9, 2018

A meeting of the Board of Trustees (the “**Board**”) of the Amani Public Charter School (the “**School**”), was held at the School’s facility at 60 South Third Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY on April 9, 2018, beginning at approximately 6:30 pm. local time pursuant to notice duly given.

The following Trustees were present in person at the meeting: Sidney Burke, Laura Francis (for the portion indicated), Edward Green (for the portion indicated), Robert Jones, and Jim Killoran. E. Adell Dowdy and David Eichler were not present.

Also present at the meeting were the following School employees: Debra Stern, Michelle Danko, Tara McLoughlin, Phil Salmon, and Reinis Visners.

Also present at the meeting was Aulston Taylor, who had expressed an interest in potentially joining the Board.

Mr. Burke presided as Chair of the meeting and recorded the minutes as secretary for the meeting.

Attached as Exhibit A are the materials provided to the Board at or prior to the meeting.

After noting that a quorum was present, the Chair called the meeting to order.

1. Public Comment. The Chair opened the floor for public comment. No one from the public chose to speak.

2. School Snapshot. Mrs. Stern, Mrs. Danko, and Mr. Visners presented the School Snapshot to the Board, including a discussion of the School’s upcoming lottery for new scholars (including changes to the lottery day itself, analyzing changes in lottery applications, the impact of changes in the district on lottery applications, and the possibility of applying to SED to permit a weighted lottery in the future), the New York State exams and related preparation (including strong Saturday Academy attendance, academic focus areas in the period leading up to the tests, and the influence of individualized data from recent internal testing on the preparation process), and curriculum updates. Members of the Board asked various questions, which were answered.

Mr. Green arrived at this time.

3. Budget Update. Mr. Salmon updated the Board regarding the School’s financial performance for the academic year to date.

4. Upcoming Events, Fundraising. Mrs. Stern updated the Board regarding various upcoming events, as well as a recent grant that the School was awarded for classroom libraries and another grant that the School has applied for.

5. Data Dashboard. The Board next discussed with Mrs. Stern, Mrs. Danko, Mrs. McLoughlin, and Mr. Visners the School's current draft data dashboard. Among other matters, this discussion included consideration of academic testing, dashboard reporting, and predicting state test results, and how best to present this data. During this discussion, Board members asked numerous questions, which were answered.

Mrs. Francis arrived during this discussion. Following this discussion, Mr. Visners left the meeting

6. Approval of Prior Minutes. The minutes of the Board meeting held on May 12, 2018, were reviewed and unanimously approved.

7. Evaluation Framework for Executive Director. The Board next discussed revisions to the framework for the review of the School's executive director. After discussion, the Board agreed to further discuss the appropriate metric for student academic growth after School staff provided additional historical data.

8. Board Development and Recruitment. The Board next discussed Board development and recruitment. As part of this discussion, Mr. Taylor introduced himself to the Board and described his background, the reasons for his interest in joining the Board, and the skills he would bring to the Board.

9. Mayor Richard Thomas. Mr. Burke reported to the Board regarding certain unfounded allegations made in the press regarding Mayor Thomas' relationship with the School, and the efforts that the School made to counter those false reports. School staff reiterated that Mr. Thomas had not received any payments from the School.

10. Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sidney Burke
Secretary for the Meeting

APPROVED:

Jim Killoran
Secretary

EXHIBIT A

[Board materials attached]

EXHIBIT B

Resolutions of the
Board of Trustees (the “**Board**”)
of the
Amani Public Charter School (the “**School**”)

April 9, 2018

None (but see minutes for certain approvals).