



**BOARD MEETING FOR THE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
June 30, 2022**

Time: 6:30pm – 7:35 pm.

Location: Virtual Meeting (Zoom Webinar)

Facilitator: Robert T. Stewart, Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Board Secretary: Shanakay Walker

Trustees in Attendance: Stephen Rowley, Dale James, Dawn West, Carol Beckles, Claudette Harrison, Marie Graham.

Others Present: Barrington Goldson (President and Chief Executive Officer) Wayne Haughton (Chief Development Officer), Nicholas Stapleton (Chief Academic Officer), Alwayne Burke (Chief Group Financial Officer), Sandra Oneil (Chief People Officer & General Counsel), Paula Morris (Chief of Instructional Technology & Innovation), Felicia Barracks (Chief Strategic Development Officer).

Chairman Stewart called for the President and Chief Executive Officer's Report.

Report/Reporter: President and Chief Executive Officer's Report

Person Responsible: Bishop Barrington Goldson

Action Items: None

Conclusion: Bishop Goldson provided the Board with the highlights from his report. Our expansion into Wyandanch continues to progress. The team has attended several events within the town of Wyandanch and has received a favorable response from the community at large. Scholar and staff recruitment have been ongoing and tremendously successful. The school continues to voice our opposition to the proposed apartment complex. We are still hopeful that a peaceful resolution will be met shortly. The Academy Charter School – Uniondale continues to prepare for an authorizer visit for its renewal. Our Hempstead and Uniondale schools have successfully concluded the 2021-2022 academic school year. Our Kindergarten, 5th, 8th, and 12th grade graduations were held during the last two weeks of the school year. The high school graduation was attended by over 1,000 guests, where the speaker was Ambassador John Bolton. The recruitment campaign for the 2022-23 school year is progressing. Interviews and demo lessons continue to take place. The process for our international candidates is progressing with 18 of our 19 candidates being approved for sponsorship in the J-1 Exchange Visitor Program. Our operational team has drafted an operations manual, that is currently being reviewed by the relevant leadership. The team continues to work on a handbook for our international teachers. Our team has prioritized the development of a strategic fundraising plan and are launching several efforts to that end. A golf tournament and art auction are two of the upcoming events that are slated to raise funds for the Academy.

Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the President and Chief Executive

Officer's Report. Motioned by Trustee Rowley, seconded by Trustee West.

The floor was opened for questions or comments for the President and Chief Executive Officer's Report.

Chairman Stewart called for the Chief Academic Officer's Report.

Report: Chief Academic Officer's Report
Person Responsible: Dr. Nicholas Stapleton
Action Items: None

Conclusion: Dr. Stapleton provided the Board with highlights from his report. Scholars in grades K-8 have completed the end of the year Renaissance STAR assessment in Reading and Mathematics. There has been a decrease in the number of scholars performing at the lowest performance level in both Reading and Mathematics in most grades. There has been an increase in the number of scholars performing at level 3 and 4 in both Reading and Mathematics. However, in a few instances, there were slight decreases. Scholars' performance in both subjects and in all grades is better than the 2020-2021 school year, but lower than the 2018-2019 school year. Scholars in grades K-5, performed better in Reading than Mathematics. However, scholars in the 3rd grade performed better in Mathematics. Scholars in grades 6-8 performed better in Mathematics than Reading. In grades 6-8, most scholars are scoring at or above proficiency level in both Reading and Mathematics. Most scholars in kindergarten (above 50%) are above the proficiency level in Reading. Due to the instructional model that occurred during the school year the following will be considered in making promotion/retention decision: teacher grade, score on End of Year Renaissance STAR Reading and Mathematics, scholar attendance record, and parental recommendation. Scholars did well in some subjects, but struggled in others, including Geometry, and Chemistry. Due to concerns over the pass rate, which is lower than the historical trend, the NYSED issued a special waiver for scholars who scored 50% - 64%. Scholars who score in the range receive the credit for the course, which is applicable for meeting graduation requirements. The CTE component will be implemented at the Academy Charter School (Hempstead) and Academy Charter School (Wyandanch), during the 2022-2023 school year.

Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the Chief Academic Officer's Report.
Motioned by Trustee Harrison, seconded by Trustee Beckles.

The floor was opened for questions or comments on the report received. A discussion was held. Chairman Stewart called for the Chief Development Officer's Report.

Report/Reporter: Chief Development Officer's Report.

Person Responsible: Wayne Haughton

Action Items: None

Conclusion: Mr. Haughton provided the Board with the highlights from his report. Fire inspections protocols have been completed and the Fire Marshall's observation is completed for Hempstead Lower Elementary School. The Fire Marshall will return for all additional sites. Annual painting of buildings has commenced. Fire inspections protocols have been completed and Fire Marshall's observation is pending. The concrete pouring on the 3rd floor is ongoing for Uniondale. The steel erection for the 4th floor is completed. The boxing of the building is completed, and all internal processes have begun. We are awaiting confirmation for the temporary relocation site for the

Uniondale Middle School. We have completed funding protocol for the 2022-2023 school year with our partners, the Charter School Growth Fund. We received our monetary disbursement. We are expecting our 2nd disbursement, and that will include additional grant funding. The official documentation with regards to the letter of good standing for the opening of the Wyandanch Charter was received.

Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the Chief Development Officer's Report. Motioned by Trustee West, seconded by Trustee Graham.

The floor was opened for questions or comments on the report received. A discussion was held.

Chairman Stewart called for the Chief People and Legal Officer's Report.

Report: Chief People and Legal Officer

Person Responsible: Sandra Oneil

Action Items: None

Conclusion: Mrs. Oneil provided the Board with highlights from her report. Interviews are being held on a regular basis. Recruitment is ongoing for the upcoming school year and several positions have already been filled for Hempstead, Uniondale, and Wyandanch. 18 of the 19 qualifying candidates for J-1 sponsorship for the Bridge USA Teacher program formally known as the J-1 Exchange Visitor Program have been approved. An official DS2019 with SEVIS number has been issued. The final candidate has signed the contracts and is in the process of being approved for her J-1. Affiliations from this process secured a green card holder from Barbados for Math, and an HS ELA teacher currently residing in Georgia. As a backup, we have reached out to a Spanish teacher from North Carolina, if needed. Continuation letters have been sent out with a majority of the employees receiving a 3% - 5% increase. Some employees receive a higher increase based on their exceptional performance and on the recommendation of their supervisor. Employees currently on a performance improvement plan, or whose performance is below expectation received a cost-of-living adjustment of 3%. Returning teachers will receive a \$3,000.00 retention bonus, which will be made payable in two installments. We are planning HR orientation for the upcoming school year for both new and returning staff. Regarding litigation. The Faith Baptist v. The Academy Charter School – settlement negotiations have failed. The plaintiff made a request that was onerous. Awaiting judge's ruling of Plaintiff's motion for partial summary judgment. The Garner et.al. v The Academy Charter School (federal claim) – motion for attorney's fees has been fully briefed and we are awaiting the Judge's ruling. Garner et. al. v The Academy Charter School (state claim)- settlement negotiations is still ongoing.

Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the Chief People and Legal Officer's Report. Motioned by Trustee James, seconded by Trustee Harrison.

The floor was opened for questions or comments on the report received. A discussion was held.

Chairman Stewart called for the Group Chief Financial Officer's Report.

Report: Group Chief Financial Officer's Report

Person Responsible: Alwayne Burke

Action Items: None

Conclusion: Mr. Burke provided an update on the financial status of the Academy. The revenue is slightly higher than the budget for the month. The expenses are higher than the budget. The month of May was positive as the monthly revenue was more than the expenses for the month. The revenues at Hempstead increased by 32% when compared to the month of May 2021. Expenses increased by 25% when compared to period ending May 31,2021. The increase in revenues at Hempstead is due to increases in per pupil revenue as well as SPED billing for 2022. Expenses are higher due to higher operational costs in 2022. The total revenues at Uniondale and total expenses increased when compared to May 31,2021. The increase in revenues at Uniondale is because Uniondale added scholars and grades during the 2021-2022 school year. Uniondale enrolled scholars in grades 5,6, and 10 for the 2021-2022 school year. Expenses are high due to two reasons. There is an increase in the numbers of scholars, and second, the operation costs are more expensive in 2022 when compared to 2021. The statement of activities for the period ending May 31, 2022, continues to trend positively when compared to the budget. Total revenues and expenses at Hempstead increased by 10% and 11% respectively. The increase in revenues at Hempstead is due to increase in per pupil tuition rate as well as SPED billing. Expenses are higher due to higher operational costs in 2022. The total revenue and expenses at Uniondale are higher. The increase in revenues and expenses at Uniondale is because Uniondale added scholars and grades during the 2021-2022 school year. Uniondale enrolled grades K-5, 6 and 10 for the 201-2022 school year when compared to K- 4 and ninth grade in 2020-2021. The balance sheet reflected the financial stability and overall financial position of both Charters. The required debt reserve funds were properly maintained in the designated bank accounts, in compliance with the school's debt service covenant. The school had adequate current assets to meet its current obligations. The statements reported the movement of cash from the school's operating, investing, and financing activities. The statements are reconciled to reflect the cash position as of May 31,2022. 91% of accounts receivable are less than 30 days old as of May 31st,2022. Ratios are in line with CSI's requirement.

| Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the Group Chief Financial Officer's Report. Motioned by Trustee James, seconded by Trustee West.

The floor was opened for questions or comments on the report received. A discussion was held.

| With no further questions or comments, Board Chairman Stewart requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motioned by Trustee Graham, seconded by Trustee West.

Board Chairman Stewart thanked everyone for attending. He gave all the Trustees an opportunity to greet all attendees at the Board Meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.