

**Approved Minutes of
THE MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES OF MANHATTAN CHARTER
SCHOOLS EDUCATION CORPORATION**

July 14, 2021 at 6:00 pm

Meeting called to order at 6:07 pm

In attendance were trustees: Annabel Javier, Caity Conklin, Lauren Schwarz, Megann McManus

School Reps: Genie DePolo, Amy Salazar

Proposed Minutes

Minutes of the June 2, 2021 meeting were reviewed by the Board and approved without revisions.

Reports

Chief of Schools Report

The end of the school year was well planned and went smoothly. All electronic devices were returned by 5th graders. MCS and MCS2 each had a small outdoor event for the 5th graders and their parents where they received gifts, books and school supplies from the schools. Tables were set up in the schoolyard for yearbook signing and visiting. Parents were able to spend time with staff and say goodbye. The events created a memorable last day of our 5th graders.

The MCS and MCS2 5th grade and Kindergarten moving up ceremonies were very well attended and seamless. The K students and their parents were very excited to now be 1st graders. 5th graders all dressed up for the ceremony, were excited, but also very tearful. Parents and staff were as well. Trustee Schwarz was a big hit as guest speaker.

Staff was very appreciative of the special bonus approved by the Board. It was very unexpected and a perfect way to end a very trying school year. Many thanks were expressed for the bonus, and also for the recognition of their hard work by the Board.

Plans for reopening have been shared with parents. Parents know we will be fully in person starting the first day of school, August 23rd. There has been no negative feedback regarding this plan.

Extended Day notices were sent to families. There has been a significant response from parents wanting their children to participate. We are now interviewing applicants for Group Leaders and Assistant Group Leaders We are planning to contact former MCS students are college age in the hopes they will want to return as part time Assistant Group Leaders. This is another way to provide service to our families and also be more visible in the community. The first day of Extended Day is August 30th.

The first week of school will be spent addressing the social and emotional needs of students, reintegrating them into school and reminding them what it means to be a good community member. We will be starting the first day with full classes and a regular school day.

We purchased a significant amount of school materials, supplies and contracts this year to offset costs from next year's budget. The budget year closed on June 31st. We will know whether or not there is a surplus for each school by the August Board meeting.

New teachers are starting August 2nd, returning teachers August 9th. The first day of school is August 23rd, and the first day of Extended Day is August 30th.

MCS2 renewal is nearly complete. We are still waiting for two bios. The plan is to send the Board the renewal by August 1st for review. We asked SUNY to consider an early visit in the school year to accommodate Ms. Salazar's parental leave.

As of this time, there is no change to COVID procedures at the school. We are planning to open as we did in 2020. We will still use the health screener daily, students and staff will have a temperature check before entering the building. PPE supplies are in both buildings, ready to be distributed and used as we did all school year. Masks will continue to be worn each day by all.

Enrollment continues to be a significant challenge. We are still recruiting as if it were the start of the lottery season. Ms. DePolo announced told the Board that we did get a student from Schola, which pays the fee for the program for a year.

The next Board meeting for the 2020-2021 school year will take place August 11, 2021.

Finance Committee Report

There was no report.

New Business

Trustee Conklin asked that the new school leadership be invited to meet the Board at the August 11th meeting. Ms. DePolo will invite them to attend.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

Executive Session

There was no executive session.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 pm