

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

September 1, 2021 at 6:00 pm

Meeting called to order at 6:12 pm

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

School Reps: Genie DePolo

Proposed Minutes

Minutes of the August 11, 2021 meeting were reviewed by the Board and approved without revisions.

Reports

Chief of Schools Report

The first day of school on August 23rd at both MCS and MCS2 went very smoothly. There were a number of students who did not return. We are waiting for the first day of school for the DOE to see if there are more students not returning.

The introduction of the new MCS principal, Meredith Mallouk, to students and parents went well. Letters were mailed to all families introducing her and multiple School Messengers and emails were sent to parents telling of the change. Parents have said that things seem the same, just with a new principal at the door.

Our annual Welcome Back event took place on August 25th. It was well attended despite the brutal heat of the day. Families from MCS and MCS2 were welcomed by the Mark Williams Jazz Band and were treated to healthy snacks, boxes of groceries provided by a local CBO, and lots of fun and games.

The school reopening plan hasn't changed from last month. We are fully in person and following CDC guidelines for reopening in person. The list below has been in place since the first day of school.

- 3 feet social distancing
- Daily health screener
- Daily temperature checks at the door
- Masks at all times in and out of the school building
- Disinfecting wipes in every classroom
- Hand sanitizer dispenser in every classroom
- Handwashing breaks
- Air purifiers in every space with students

- Electrostatic spray disinfecting every evening

To date, not a single parent has questioned the safety of the schools, or asked for a remote or hybrid option for their child. The students have all grown accustomed to wearing masks, and following all COVID protocols.

The first two weeks of school has been devoted to reintegrating students back into school. This plan is to help students and teachers adjust to full time, whole class, in person instruction. Some curriculum is being taught, but the majority of the time is being spent on settling in students and teachers.

The MCS2 renewal visit will be September 14th and 15th. There will be a pre-renewal call on September 10th to ensure all documents needed for the visit will be available for the visit. The meeting with the Board of Trustees is September 14th. We are confident that we are prepared for the visit.

Enrollment continues to be a significant challenge. As of today, there are 206 students at MCS, and 113 at MCS2. All children have been called from the waitlist. We are encouraging parents who call asking for a seat to just come in and complete the paperwork to enroll their child once we confirm age and grade. We are still recruiting as if it were the start of the lottery season.

The start of Extended Day was very successful. Many former students returned to be counselors. There is a waitlist for seats at both schools. We will increase enrollment as we hire staff. The opening numbers were 91 at MCS and 57 at MCS2.

The next Board meeting for the 2020-2021 school year will take place October 6, 2021. The meeting dates for the balance of the school year are as follows Nov. 3rd, Dec. 1st, Jan. 5th, Feb. 2nd, Mar. 2nd, Apr. 6th, May 4th, June 1st.

Finance Committee Report

There was no report.

New Business

There was no new business.

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 6:27 pm