



Minutes

ROSALYN YALOW CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD RETREAT

**NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDENS
2900 Southern Boulevard
Bronx, New York
Saturday, May 5, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.**

Trustees Present

Benjamin Yalow, Dr. Sandra Hayes, Michael Rosen, Shirley Saunders and Alec Diacou,
Executive Director.

We did not have a quorum of Trustees, therefore this meeting was informal and limited to discussion only.

- 990 – this IRS document had not been signed. Mr. Rosen agreed to sign it as the Board Treasurer.
- John Carr gave the Board notice that he resigned as board chairman and we must make NYSED Charter School Office (Ms. Nicole Henderson) aware of his resignation. We discussed this issue at length. No recommendation was agreed upon.
- The April 17th, 2018 minutes need to be approved at our next Board meeting.
- It was previously agreed that the Board of Trustees needed to hire a person who can take minutes at our meetings. We will be moving forward with that.
- Charter – we need to review our charter periodically just to be sure there is clarity with the staff, parents and the trustees. We need to set our calendars whereas when trustees need to be re-appointed, various yearly exams the students take (assessments).
- We also need an events calendar to be issued with our agenda.
- Managing and measuring student performance – Principal Belle should be in attendance once a month at our Trustees meeting or her proxy to advise us on the progress of our students. If the Principal is unable to attend our monthly meetings, then it is fair for us to know by name who we should expect on her behalf and present the status of our students.
- Discussed questions about student performance, which will be sent to principal Belle with a request to submit answers by Friday, May 12.



- 2018-19 Budget – Several key issues concerning the budget were discussed by Michael, Ben, and Alec, and the budget will be submitted to the full board for a vote. T
- The lease with Walker Memorial was discussed in great detail. We thought we had a lease, but they came back to us with a re-negotiated lease making us responsible for anything and everything that will occur in our building. We are having our attorneys investigate our options concerning a re-negotiated lease. We will also contact Ms. Soto, Esq. an attorney recommended to us.
- Our attorney, Bernie Kennedy, was conferenced in on speakerphone to discuss Yalow’s lease problems. He suggested we get engineering estimates for the cost of replacing the four rooftop HVAC units, and Alec was asked get estimates.
- Brainstorming - We asked ourselves questions like “charter design items” – do we want to make change in the charter’s model? Examples, changing teacher-social worker model to 2 teachers per class? Saturday Academy time on tasks. Should M-F learning time be reduced to 6 hours? Classroom management and success for teachers and students. Every Oct. 5 we must submit our measure of progress and send it to the state.
- Recommended a payout to teachers for PTO time of \$200.00 per day.
- Discussed the “health” of our school – The challenge of teachers vs. social workers. How is our staff doing? (evaluations). Appropriate umbers of students and teachers per classroom: 2 teachers, 30 students per class. Can we work with one social worker per class? Our 401k match plan is okay.
- Reviewed health benefits from Aetna, Blue Cross/Blue Sheild, and Oxford/United. Oxford was recommended, with Yalow subsidizing 92% of Basic plan.
- The meeting ended approximately 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by
Shirley J. Saunders, Secretary
Approved by participating Trustees
May 15, 2018