Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls Charter School
The Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski School
"Where Every Girl Is a Leader!"

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, July 16, 2025
Time: 11:30 AM
Location: Virtual via Zoom
Notetaker: Laura Paulino, Executive Assistant

BOT Members Present:
Dina Velez, Board Chair, Victoria Jenn Rodriguez, Vice Chair, Millie Carrasquillo, Treasurer, Carla Anderson

BGLIG Staff Present:
Raven Obas, Executive Director

Board Member Absent:
Alexandra De Leon

Welcome & Opening Remarks
*The meeting was called to order at 11:36 AM by Chair Dina Velez.
*Quorum confirmed by Chair Dina Velez.

Executive Director's Report < Raven Obas >

- **Recent School Happenings:** Celebratory graduation ceremonies were held for kindergarten, 5th-grade, and 8th-grade students—the expanded recognition for younger grades aimed to enhance the student and family experience. Distinguished guests included Assembly Member Chantel Jackson, who presented a proclamation recognizing BGLIG's 16 years of service, and Bronx Borough President Vanessa Gibson, who awarded a Citation of Merit. These plaques will be displayed near the school's main office to highlight the organization's recognition by city and state leaders. The 8th grade graduation featured a keynote address from Hon. Lynette Rosado, who also committed to an annual $100 scholarship for the valedictorian, awarded this year to Wilfrida, along with a commemorative glass plaque.

- **Student Retention and Enrollment:** The school has enrolled 362 students for the 2024–2025 school year — a 23% increase from last month, including 100 newly registered students. Leadership is focused on continued enrollment efforts to build a cushion above the 324-student benchmark and avoid early-year attrition seen in past years. The summer program currently serves 108 students, surpassing original projections, with strong student attendance and teacher engagement.
- **Upcoming Events**: A Paint & Sip event is scheduled for Saturday, July 26, to build community and support student retention among newly enrolled families. The last day of the summer program is Friday, August 8. Staff pre-service and professional development begin Monday, August 18, with targeted planning already underway to ensure a strong launch to the school year.
- **Leader Updates:** Raven will meet with the Finance Committee to finalize performance bonuses for school leaders based on the prior year's KPI outcomes. She is also leading revisions to the KPI framework for 2025–2026 to ensure alignment with BGLIG's evolving goals and values. A strategic shift is underway in Raven's role: she will gradually transition out of day-to-day school-based responsibilities and focus more on development, fundraising, governance, and external relations.
- **Compliance Reporting:** The school has submitted all required compliance documents, including attendance reporting and a resubmission of the Annual Comprehensive Report (ACR). Leadership is preparing the upcoming annual report and refining internal systems to ensure continued accuracy and compliance.
- **Board Engagement and Fundraising:** Updates were shared on ongoing conversations with philanthropic partners and foundations, including the Robert Sterling Clark Foundation, Bronx Community Foundation, New Schools Venture Fund, Robin Hood Foundation, the Peter and Carmen Lucia Buck Foundation, and the Yankee Foundation. Donations are targeted for submission by October to align with funding cycles.
- **Board Next Steps:** The leadership team is reviewing performance data from the previous school year to inform updates to internal goals and key metrics for the upcoming year. Board input on these refinements has underscored the continued importance of board engagement in fundraising efforts and cultivating external partnerships. One-on-one meetings with board members will be scheduled in August to discuss individual fundraising strategies and goals. The board also discussed broader outreach to corporate and community organizations, as well as future opportunities for collaborative fundraising events.

Committee Reports:

Academic Committee Report < Dina Velez, Board Chair >

- The committee discussed the upcoming professional development for the full leadership team, which will focus on the Danielson Framework. This training is designed to support instructional leadership and strengthen alignment to performance goals. Planning is underway for August training sessions, with a focus on leadership readiness and continued progress toward academic targets for the upcoming school year.

Finance Committee Report < Millie Carrasquillo, Treasurer >

- The committee reviewed budget planning assumptions and current year performance, noting improved financial stability compared to the prior year, despite a remaining deficit. Stronger revenue performance and better forecasting were highlighted as key improvements. Discussions centered on the importance of student enrollment for revenue stability, the

potential impacts of union negotiations, and areas for budget refinement, including consultant and technology spending. Fundraising projections and contingency planning were also identified as key focus areas for the future.

Board Nominations Committee < Victoria Jenn Rodriguez, Vice Chair >

- The committee is focused on board recruitment, following a timeline established during the retreat: engaging potential candidates now, holding school visits in September, and presenting nominations to the full board that month. Trustees were reminded to identify and refer prospective members using the intake form and to begin initial conversations to gauge interest. Raven will host two site visits in September to further engage potential candidates. Outreach is underway through social media and personal networks. The committee is also exploring dual opportunities through donor engagement that may lead to new board member prospects with expertise in operations, project management, and fundraising.

Board Matters < Dina Velez, Board Chair & Victoria Jenn Rodriguez, Vice Chair >

- Feedback from the BOT on the revised bylaws tabled for the Executive Session.

Public Comment

- No public comment.

Motions < Dina Velez, Board Chair >

- Motion to Approve: April 2025 Minutes
  - Seconded by Victoria Jenn Rodriguez at 12:31 PM
  - The motion passed unanimously.
- Motion to Approve: May 2025Minutes
  - Seconded by Victoria Jenn Rodriguez at 12:31 PM
  - The motion passed unanimously.
- Motion to Approve: June 2025 Minutes
  - Seconded by Carla Anderson at 12:32 PM
  - The motion passed unanimously.
- Motion to Approve SY25-26 BOT Calendar
  - Seconded by Carla Anderson at 12:32 PM
  - The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

Dina Velez made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Revised Bylaws and Union Matters. Victoria Jenn Rodriguez seconds. Motion passed unanimously at 12:35 PM.

Dina made a motion to exit the Executive Session. Carla seconds. Motion passed unanimously at 12:44 PM.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 PM.

The next Board Meeting will be held: Aug 20, 2025 (11:30 AM-12:30 PM)