Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
750 Concourse Village West
Bronx, NY 10451
Minutes of Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Meeting start time: 6:50pm

Board Members Present: Alana Barran, Joe Carcagno, Yolanda LaGuerre, Victoria Rodriguez, and Nydia Sancho.

Board Members Absent: Marcela Carvajal and Huey-Min Chuang.

Non Board Members Present: Celia Domenech, Brooke Fontaine, and Marcia Gonzalez

Roll call by Nydia Sancho

6.55 PM Alana makes motion to move into Executive Session. Second by Victoria, all in favor.
7:36 PM Alana makes motion to end Executive Session. Second by Joe, all in favor.

Elementary School Principal Report: See Attached
E.L.A. tests were administered. Exams were difficult. Format, design, and overall makeup of exams were challenging. Similar feedback was received from other administers of the test. NYS Math exams scheduled for April 30th.

BGLIG can now service Pre K. Charter Schools will not be charged rent and will receive monies per pupil. Celia asked the board to consider this as an option for our elementary school. Early intervention studies conclude the earlier you educate a student the better off they will be in the long term. The Academic Committee will meet with Celia to discuss how we will house Pre K and report back to the Board with recommendations to consider.

Celia stressed the importance of filling the Business Manager role ASAP.

Middle School Principal report: See Attached
Marcia reiterated the E.L.A. exam was challenging. Structure was not developmentally appropriate and not true to the mission of Common Core. The possibility of a group of states coming together to create an exam that is less difficult and meets the Common Core mission is underway. Updates to follow soon.

Marcia is in the process of creating a budget for all projected purchases over the next year. Included in this budget will be the recommended usage of the library.

Marcia mentioned staff is overwhelmed with filling the Business Manager role responsibilities. There is urgency around filling the role ASAP. Marcia also asked the Board to consider hiring administrative staff specifically for the Middle School. Marcia will create a job description for this role and submit to

the Board for consideration. If the role is approved a new line item in the school budget will need to be created.

Academic/Personnel Committee Report:
Committee has been working diligently to review book purchases, salary recommendations, and personnel evaluations. Over the next few weeks the Committee will meet to finalize any salary increases and present recommendations to the Board at the next meeting. Committee will also review the principal self assessments for both schools.

Alana makes motion to request Celia provide the Committee with the names of all personnel that received new degrees during the school year and as a result received salary increases before year end while employed at BGLIG. Victoria seconds, all in favor.

Finance Committee Report:
The budget for next year is being worked on pending salary requests. Credit card charges are being evaluated and any late fees and/or interest charges will be disputed along with hotel charges correlated to our former BM expense activities. Meetings are taking place to assess workforce planning needs.

Old Business:
Teacher Evaluation Tool for Both Schools – Yolanda makes the motion for both school principals to work together and create a new enhanced evaluation tool to be used for all promotions and any recommendations for increases in annual salary. Second by Victoria, all in favor.

Elementary School Technology Proposal: Celia is working on the technology proposal and will include SMART Goals. Proposal will be presented at next Board meeting. Yolanda noted Matt at Victory is working on a BGLIG Technology Plan. Recommendation for Celia to work closely with Matt as she builds out her proposal was made.

Yolanda requests meeting minutes be provided ahead of the following Board meeting so the Board has ample time to review the minutes. Joe notes minutes are available before Board meetings for review.

New Business:
Title II Amendment: Conference Change Approval – National Charter School Conference moved to Las Vegas, Nevada. Motion to approve attendance for both principals for the following week days: Sunday – Wednesday made by Alana. Second by Victoria, all in favor.

Yolanda makes motion for the Board to remove meeting minutes from 12/20/13 and 3/4/14 meeting minutes 1 and 2 because it contains negative characterization and misrepresentation of events that transpired at those meetings as reflected by audio records; those minutes represent a personal assault to my character that is damaging and harmful to my professional reputation. Motion was not seconded. Motion does not pass.

Nydia would like the record to reflect her request for the audio recordings taken by Yolanda. Copy of audio recording was not provided.

Victoria asked if people can be recorded without permission. Yolanda responds as follows, "If you were at the meeting you would know." No further clarification was provided.

Yolanda asked that the record reflect her trust in all board members to approve minutes that were truthfully recorded.

Alana notes for the record Yolanda is being disruptive.

Yolanda informs the Board that the meeting is being recorded at 8:40 PM. Victoria asks that the record show her request to not be recorded.

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes:
March 18, 2014 – Motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes taken on March 18, 2014 made by Joe. Nydia seconds. All in favor approve except Yolanda is against motion. Motion passes by majority vote.

PTO Report – Tabled in the absence of the PTO president.

Alana moves to adjourn meeting at 8:51 PM. Joe seconds, all in favor. Meeting is Adjourned at 8:51pm.