

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
AMANI PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

**March 14, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees (the “**Board**”) of the Amani Public Charter School (the “**School**”), was held at the School’s facility at 60 South Third Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY on March 14, 2016, beginning at approximately 6:30 pm. local time pursuant to notice duly given.

The following Trustees were present in person at the meeting: Sidney Burke, E. Adell Dowdy, David Eichler, Laura Francis, and Jim Killoran.

Stephanie McCaine, Rich Thomas, and Robert Jones were not present.

Also present at the meeting was Debra Stern (the School’s Executive Director), Michael Bailey (the School’s Director of Finance), Stan Whalen (the School’s Director of Curriculum and Instruction), Charnay Phaire (the School’s Director of Operations), and Michelle Danko (the School’s Director of Pupil Personnel Services). Mr. Burke presided as Chair of the meeting and recorded the minutes as secretary for the meeting.

Attached as Exhibit A are the materials provided to the Board at or prior to the meeting.

After noting that a quorum was present, the Chair called the meeting to order.

1. Public Comment. The Chair opened the floor for public comment. No one from the public chose to speak.

2. SPED. Ms. Danko reported to the Board on the special education program at the School, including a discussion of the current structure and student performance, and proposed program changes and staffing increases. Members of the Board asked a number of questions, which were answered.

3. Budget; Operating Reserve. Mr. Bailey provided a report to the Board on the School’s current and expected financial position as of the end of the School’s fiscal year. He also discussed the expected amount of cash on hand as of the end of the School’s fiscal year, noted that the School was looking into investment options for the School’s cash on hand, and was discussing potential uses of the School’s operating reserve with the Finance Committee. After discussion with the Board, it was agreed that a further update on these matters would be provided at the next Board meeting.

4. Academic Review. Mr. Whalen reported to the Board on students’ academic

performance and progress during the school year. Members of the Board asked a number of questions, which were answered.

5. Recruitment. Mr. Phaire and Ms. Stern reported to the Board on the School's recruitment efforts, including its efforts at outreach to under-represented sub-groups. The Board watched the recruitment video that the School has prepared.

At this point all of the members of the School's staff other than Mrs. Stern departed.

6. Executive Session. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously approved, the Board then went into executive session to discuss a potential litigation matter.

7. School Snapshot. Mrs. Stern presented the School Snapshot to the Board, including a discussion of recent and upcoming School events, operations, staff evaluations, internal student testing, student recruitment/waiting list, high school placement, enrichment offerings, school culture/discipline, and fundraising. Members of the Board asked various questions of her, which were answered.

8. Approval of Prior Minutes. The minutes of the Board meeting held on February 8, 2016, were reviewed and unanimously approved.

9. Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sidney Burke  
Secretary for the Meeting

APPROVED:

E. Adell Dowdy  
Trustee

## **EXHIBIT A**

[Board materials attached]

**EXHIBIT B**

Resolutions of the  
Board of Trustees (the “**Board**”)  
of the  
Amani Public Charter School (the “**School**”)

March 14, 2016

None.