

**Amani Public Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda 2/12/18**

- I. Roll Call/Call to Order
 - II. Public Comment
 - III. Matters for approval
 - a. Board minutes for December 2017 and January 2018 meetings
 - IV. Reports and other items for discussion
 - a. Resignation of Blair Smith
 - b. New curriculum initiatives
 - c. Presentation by Dan Pasek
 - d. Report on mean growth data analysis
 - e. Report on results of interim internal test results and projections for state testing
 - f. ED self-evaluation / Board evaluation of ED performance / ED goals for 2017-18
 - V. School snapshot
 - VI. Committee & Taskforce Reports
 - a. *Executive Committee*
 - b. *Finance Committee*
 - c. *Education and Accountability Committee*
 - d. *Fundraising Task Force*
 - e. *Communications Task Force*
 - VII. Items for next Board Meeting (Recommendations due March 5th)
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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
AMANI PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

February 12, 2018

A 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 February 12, 2018, 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, Laura Francis, Edward Green, Robert Jones, and Jim Killoran.

David Eichler was not present.

Also present at the meeting were the following School employees: Debra Stern, Michelle Danko, Tara McLoughlin, and Phil Salmon.

Also present for a portion of the meeting (by telephone) was Dan Pasek (Managing Director, Pasek Consulting).

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. New Curriculum and Instruction Initiatives. Mrs. Danko, Mrs. McLoughlin, and Mrs. Stern discussed with the Board the School’s new curriculum and instruction initiatives, which have been developed with the assistance of outside consultants in response to the School’s curriculum and instruction audit. These initiatives include staffing changes and additional professional development (including individualized coaching) for teaching staff, with a focus on curriculum planning, changes in teaching methods to increase rigor in the classroom, and improving assessments. The Board asked a variety of questions regarding these initiatives (including how the School will assess their efficacy), which were answered by the School staff.

3. Approval of Funding for Educational Consultants. Mr. Salmon noted that the consultants who are involved in the new curriculum and instruction initiatives would be doing more work and providing additional deliverables that had not been previously included in the

School's budget for consultants, including preparing scripted lesson plans for three units for each grade for ELA and math. Mr. Salmon noted that the estimated cost for these consultants was \$70,000, and that the School had sufficient operating reserves to fund such costs if the Board approved. Although Board members noted that academic improvement was "mission critical," they also asked various questions of Mrs. Stern and Mr. Salmon regarding the consulting costs and the related process, which were answered. Following discussion, upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved (with Mrs. Dowdy abstaining and Mrs. Francis voting against) the expenditure of up to \$70,000 for consultants for this initiative.

4. Approval of Prior Minutes. The minutes of the Board meetings held on December 11, 2017, and January 8, 2018, were reviewed and unanimously approved.

5. Resignation of Blair Smith. Mr. Burke noted that he had spoken with Mr. Smith recently and that Mr. Smith had indicated that, despite his desire to support the School, other commitments prevented him from committing sufficient time to the work of the Board. Mr. Smith therefore had resigned from the Board, although he indicated an interest in supporting the School in other ways.

6. Regents Meeting / Charter Renewal. Mr. Pasek then joined the meeting by phone and discussed with the Board the meeting of the Board of Regents that occurred earlier in the day, and what the Board of Regents' recent decisions regarding other schools' charter renewals might portend for the School. Members of the Board asked various questions of Mr. Pasek, which were answered.

Following this discussion, Mr. Pasek and Mr. Green left the meeting.

7. Upcoming Events. Mrs. Stern noted to the Board the upcoming visit to the School by Regent Johnson and the upcoming dedication of the School library.

8. Data Analysis. Mrs. McLoughlin discussed with the Board an analysis of certain academic data, including corrections to certain GPA calculations and STAR data that had previously been provided to the Board. The Board asked various questions of Mrs. McLoughlin, which were answered.

9. ED Evaluation. The Board continued its discussion of Mrs. Stern's self-evaluation for the prior School year, and provided some feedback on her performance in the light of the first half of this School year. Mr. Burke noted that although a performance framework for the evaluation of the Executive Director for the current School year had been reviewed by the Board at previous meetings and a majority of the Board had indicated they approved the principal elements of it, the Board had not formally approved the framework. The Board determined to continue these discussions at the next Board meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sidney Burke
Secretary for the Meeting

APPROVED:

Jim Killoran
Secretary

EXHIBIT A

[Board materials attached]

EXHIBIT B

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

February 12, 2018

None (but see minutes for certain approvals).
