

**HARLEM PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**November 16, 2021**

**ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Johnathan Walker called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM. Trustees present were Johnathan Walker, Kathleen Adams via Zoom, Valerie Blackcrow, and Michael King. One Trustee position is vacant. Dr. Arlene Bigby, Superintendent, Cassie Handran, Business Manager/Clerk, Teresa Cornell, Interim Business Manager/Clerk, and 29 guests were also present. Approximately 20 guests attended the meeting via zoom.

**A. GUESTS AND DELEGATIONS**

- Titan Brockie, Student Council President, spoke on behalf of the student body about their opposition to the closed campus and cell phone restrictions.
- Cheryl Sears, parent, spoke in opposition to the closed campus and the current cell phone and trading card policy.
- Darius Longknife, student, spoke in opposition to the closed campus and cell phone restrictions. Darius also brought up bullying.

**B. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Mike King to approve:

1. Minutes of the October 19, Regular, and November 3, Working Board Meeting.
2. Payroll Warrant number 78978 – 79021 in the amount of \$690,987.95.
3. Claim Warrant numbers 19085 – 19125 in the amount of \$294,278.81.
4. Student Account check 22117 – 22153 in the amount of \$6,007.81 and void check number 22128.
5. Purchase Orders over \$10,000:
  - Fetter Construction PO# 210528 - \$12,392.00 - Remove rodent infested insulation and reinsulate with spray foam on Rental.
  - The Home Depot Pro PO# 210509 - \$12,282.86 – Floor scrubber.

Second by Valerie Blackcrow and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

**C. PROGRAM REPORTS**

- Dr. Arlene Bigby, Cassie Handran/Teresa Cornell, Bonnie Nessler, Marty Dirden, Evelyn Bigby, Jessica Cochran and Clayton Talks Different reviewed their written reports.
- Dr. Bigby reported she had received a letter of retirement from Paula Annis, Elementary Paraprofessional, effective May 26, 2021.
- A working/special Board meeting was set for December 2, 2021, at 6:00 PM.
- Bonnie Nessler addressed the recent decision to close campus and cell phone restrictions.
- Snowball is tentatively set for December 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Amy Main spoke on the lack of discipline and need for more support staff at Jr/Sr High.

Recess 7:22PM – 7:29PM

#### **D. TRUSTEE REGISTRATION/VACANCY**

- Due to the resignation of Trustee Clayton Talks Different at the October 12, 2021 Special Board Meeting, the board conducted interviews for three prospective candidates.
- Motion by Kathleen Adams to appoint John Young to serve as a trustee until the next regularly scheduled election (May 2022). Second by Mike King and motion carried 3 for, 1 against (Blackcrow), 1 vacancy.
- Oath of Office for Trustee Appointment was administered by Cassie Handran, District Clerk.
- Mr. Young will begin his duties at the next school board meeting.

#### **E. AGREEMENT WITH YELLOWSTONE BOYS AND GIRLS RANCH REGARDING CSCT**

No action was taken until legal advice on the contract is received.

#### **F. POTENTIAL ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY**

No action was taken as the owner withdrew offer.

#### **G. BANK RESOLUTION**

Motion by Valerie Blackcrow to remove Briayan Flores from all accounts at Bank of Harlem and to adopt resolutions for the following Bank of Harlem accounts:

- o School District #12 Petty Cash Account.
- o Harlem Student Association account.
- o Flexible Benefit Account

Second by Mike King and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

#### **H. RESCIND OFFER FOR JR/SR HIGH LIBRARIAN**

Motion by Mike King to rescind offer for Jr/Sr High Librarian, Cynthia Drake, who was hired at the August 31, 2021 Special Board Meeting, but has yet to report to work. Second by Valerie Blackcrow and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

#### **I. CONSIDERATION FOR ISSUANCE OF CONTRACT FOR 2021-22 COACHES/EXTRA-CURRICULAR/MENTOR/MENTEE POSITIONS**

- Motion by Mike King to hire the following Mentor/Mentee for 21-22 SY, per the CBA: Jenna Kittson, Mentor - Alicia Noel, Mentee. Second by Valerie Blackcrow and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.
- Motion by Mike King to hire Kayla Messerly as Asst. Girls Basketball coach for SY 2021-22 per the CBA, with the district reserving the right to withdraw the offer based upon the results of the background check. Second by Valerie Blackcrow and motion **failed** 2 for, 2 against (Walker, Adams), 1 vacancy.
- Due to one of the interviewees being related to a Board member, the Board will wait to take action on the Asst. Wrestling Coach positions to allow time for the required nepotism posting.

**J. SUB/EXTRA HELP LIST APPROVAL**

Motion by Valerie Blackcrow to approve the sub/extra help/volunteer list of applicants below with the district reserving the right to withdraw the offer based upon the results of the background check and age requirement. Second by Mike King and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

Wendy Briere	Volunteer Coach	
Thomas Champagne	Volunteer Boys Basketball coach	
Marlin Lawrence	Volunteer Girls Basketball coach	
Destiny Gray	Substitute Custodian	\$15.95/hour.

It was noted that volunteers may travel with the team and game tickets will be provided, but volunteers will be responsible for their own hotel and meal accommodations.

**K. BOARD POLICY 7336 TRAVEL ALLOWANCE AND EXPENSES**

- Board Policy 7336 outlines meal rates for both adult and student travel. A request was put in to increase these meal rates. Currently adults are \$37 per day (\$10, \$12, \$15) and students are \$30 per day (\$8, \$10, \$12).
- No action was taken as the board has requested a more structured proposal for separate meal rates and daily totals.

**L. BOARD POLICY 7400 CREDIT / PROCUREMENT CARD USE**

Motion by Valerie Blackcrow to approve revisions to Board Policy 7400 to increase the credit limit to \$300,000. Second by Mike King and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

**M. BOARD POLICY 5120P FEDERAL BACKGROUND CHECK FINGERPRINT AND INFORMATION HANDLING**

Motion by Mike King to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Final Reading of BP 5120P Federal Background Check Fingerprint and Information Handling Process. Second by Kathleen Adams and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

**N. ADJOURN**

A working Board meeting was set for December 2, 2021, at 6:00 PM

Motion by Mike King to adjourn at 8:45 PM. Second by Valerie Blackcrow and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.