

Present: Suzanne O'Brien, Sandy Lefkowitz, Jacquie Marumoto, Jose' Pimentel, Diana Bendolph, Mark Bologna, Celeste Markle, Jasedia Toro, El Sanchez, Vince Musto, Nataya Riley, John Rodriguez, Joi Thompson, Rocio Cortez, Alex Ponce, Maria Rivas, Angelica Nieves, Ken Smith, Valerie Tyson-Gibson, Angela Noble, Shanda Sanders, Rachel Allison, and Tim Dutton.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.

1. **Public comment:** No public comment
2. **Approval of minutes from previous (July) meetings:** July 14th minutes and the July 24th phone Conference meeting minutes were approved.
3. **Reading Summer School Waivers for grade promotion:** Four (4) Middle School students were candidates for retention for not completing the requirements for promotion. The recommendation of the Middle School Administrator about the work done during the summer was that the students be waived into the next grade of school. This was approved by the Governing Council.

Three (3) High School students were candidates for retention. One out of the three chose to withdrawal from The Bridge Academy before the meeting. A recommendation by the administrator for one High school student would be retained and was reinforced by the school Social Worker and a faculty member; the Governing council voted to approve this recommendation. The third student was recommended for promotion with the approval of the Governing council.
4. **Old Business:** No old business
5. **Status report and update on school (summer work and start up):** Many of the staff attended 4 days of in-service training to bring them up to speed on new policies. The students and faculty are returning to a freshly painted and clean school.
6. **Governing council elections and nominations process:** Current Governing council members were asked by the Director if they would like to continue their service; they agreed. Mr. Dutton explained that parents would cast their ballots at Open House on September 17, and he would send a letter ahead of time asking for any additional candidates. A new Governing Council would start at the first meeting in October.
7. **Presentation of School Improvement Plan:** The schools Improvement Plans will be presented to the Board of Directors, for discussion at the next Board meeting.
8. **Quarterly meeting:** Based on the positive response to last semester's quarterly meeting with Dr. Robert Severstone, it was suggested that there be three (3) further sessions continuing the issue of teaching values and ethics in school to promote the building of character. The first workshop will be on November 3rd at 6 pm during the Governing Council meeting.
9. **Emergency Plans and Procedures:** New emergency plans and procedures were discussed. These will be similar to those of the Bridgeport Public schools. The school has applied for a grant to update and add-on extra security measures and preventions. The plans that have been drawn up are in review.
10. **Personnel:** The method of evaluation, SEED (System of Educator Evaluation and Development) was explained to the Board of Directors and Governing Council.
11. **Financial Committee: report:** The schools finances are in order.
12. **Building issues- No Report**
13. **Other New Business- No Report**
14. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm

Kristina Montalvo Recording Secretary

