

GROWING UP GREEN CHARTER SCHOOL II BOARD MEETING

Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 19th, 2019

Location: Growing Up Green Elementary Charter School Long Island City

Commencement Time: 7:30pm

In person: Aris Colgan (School Leader at GUGCS I), Laura Meyers (Growing Up Green I Board Parent Representative), Ann Levonen (Board Trustee), Nabiha Yusufali (Executive Assistant & Special Project Coordinator at GUGCS), Matthew Greenberg (Founder & Executive Director at GUGCS), Erin Acosta (Director of Engagement at GUGCS), Kathryn Klingenstein (Board Vicechair),

Video Conference: Marc Greenberg (Board Trustee in process), Shadiatu Moustapha (GUG II Parent Rep), Adnan Vadyk (Finance Manager for Charter School Business Management Inc), Jeff Mueller (Board Chair), Kate McGrath (General Counsel and HR Director for GUGCS)

Commencement

Jeff Mueller motioned to commence the Board of Trustees meeting for Growing Up Green I Charter School, Ann Levonen seconded the motion, and all agreed.

Previous Month's Board Meeting Minutes

Kathryn Klingenstein motioned to approve October's Board Minutes with a few edits, Ann Levonen seconded the motion, and all agreed.

Additional Board Members

Kelly Rusotti and Peter Davis are two prospective Board Members. Kelly visited last week. She is a lawyer by trade. She worked at Success Academy with Kate McGrath for a few years. She is very excited in helping out in any way she can, especially with advocacy.

Peter Davis was here at the last Board Meeting. He works for Ernst and Young. He has a great deal of experience in government, business and finance. Peter will help in many different ways, including raising money.

Kathryn Klingenstein moved to nominate Kelly Rusotti to the Growing Up Green Board of Trustees, Anne Levonen seconded, and all were in favor.

Anne Levonen nominated Peter Davis to the Growing Up Green Board of Trustees, Kathryn Klingenstein seconded, and all were in favor.

Financials

Adnan Vandyk spoke about Growing Up Green II Financials. We are projected to be on budget. State Grants revenue are over budget due to higher Special Education numbers. We have an overall savings in benefits due to the low benefit plan costs because of changing providers. We are currently projected to end the year at a surplus.

Material Change for Expansion

Dr Moustapha, Parent Rep for GUG II is sending out a letter to parents to introduce herself that is being translated to Spanish. There will be a survey attached to that will gauge families interest in helping with advocacy efforts. We are gathering support for 6th grade expansion. One of the parents is an alumni who has a lot of resources in the community. We have another parent as well who is doing whatever they can to help.

During Parent Teacher Conferences we are inviting parents to have discussion with Dr Moustapha about the expansion. We will also have a Winter Wonderland hosted by the PTO soon as well where Dr Moustapha will talk to families about our advocacy efforts. Matthew Greenberg spoke about how our application for Material Change to the SED. We will include our advocacy work, a parent video, parent meetings with politicians, a persuasive narrative that details why we are requesting a middle school expansion. The application will also include a 5 year budget. Letters of support from politicians both in this district and 28. We will know for certain by February if we have been granted the expansion and if the Board of Regents will hopefully will approve our request. We will be doing a full charter renewal in August which will include 7th and 8th grades.