



University Academy

CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL
AT NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY

275 West Side Avenue
Jersey City, New Jersey 07305

**Board of Trustees Meeting
University Academy Charter High School
Multi-purpose Room
March 11, 2009
5:30 PM**

**Ruddys Andrade
Marco Valdivia
Migdalia Viole Hernandez
Frank Mercado
Jo Bruno
Benjamin Dineen
Nadine Muhammad
John Coccioli
Karen Ridley**

Public Session

In accordance with the Public Notice Law of New Jersey, the University Academy Charter High School's meeting was advertised in the Jersey Journal and the Star Ledger. A copy was also sent to the City Clerk and a copy was posted in a public place. The public meeting of the University Academy Charter High School called to order 5:40 p.m. Mr. Valdivia addressed the public. There were no questions.

Review of February 2009 minutes (action item)

**Moved by Andrade. Second by Dineen.
Unanimous. No abstentions.**

Dean's Report (see attached)

Ms. Ridley asked what the percentage of HSPA attendance was. Mr. Lugo stated it was 100%. Ms. Ridley asked what will happen to students that do not pass. Mr. Lugo stated, currently they are in skills class to address this but we are anticipating 100% graduation. Ms. Ridley asked if our teachers are meeting the professional development hours. What counts towards 100 professional hours? Mr. Lugo stated many different tasks actually comply with this rule, so yes; most teachers are meeting these requirements.

Committee Reports

Personnel

Resolution to hire (action hire)

Moved by Bruno. Second by Muhammad.

Mr. Valdivia asked why we are hiring special education teachers at this point in the year is. Mr. Lugo stated because we have new enrollments that are classified as Special Education.

Unanimous. No abstentions.

Finance

Mr. Puzo presented on behalf of the Finance Committee. The budget was recently released and again there is 4% decrease in funds. Last year this was amended by over 200,000. We will make the same call this year. This will keep us at about \$12,000 per student, 3.1 million for salary and overtime for the rest of the year (depending on revenue which is a factor of enrollment and overtime). I believe we should fall within the range. Next year we are going to have to make some hard choices. I am not sure what we can change and where we can make savings. The bills to be paid and invoices are now available on line. Finance Committee met yesterday. We did not have any action items as we were awaiting the numbers from today.

Bollinger (all Insurance except health insurance) recently presented a risk evaluation. Please review and let me know if you have any questions. We received a \$2,000 grant received for safety issues. The board must agree to accept and provide a list of what we will spend it on.

Mr. Puzo he attended a roundtable with other charter schools to discuss facility issues. Although, we have a space it is still wise to be involved in this. There is a limit of 2% or less from private funding as a reserve. Mr. Dineen asked where this grant came from. Mr. Puzo stated it was an outside grant. We are already part of this group.

List and mandates they are considering eliminating

Mr. Lugo stated that at the last Hudson County round table meeting they was a list of items they would like to eliminate to avoid the cost burden to the school such as: Professional Dev Committee, Mandate reports, increasing class sizes, reducing Psych Ed requirement, removing restrictions 20 day subs. Mr. Lugo stated he is happy to see if the State is making changes to avoid additional financial burdens.

Mr. Andrade asked what was the UCHAS threshold, is it 3%? Mr. Puzo stated I believe it is 2.5%. The University looked through deferred rent as a liability instead of a designated portion of surplus. Under government accounting there are many items not seen as liabilities. The issue we have is with the money we privately raise? Mr. Puzo stated yes.

Review of February 2009 Finance Report and invoices to be paid (action item)

Moved by Ridley. Second by Dineen.

Unanimous. No abstentions.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ben Dineen

Frank Mercado

Ruddys Andrade

Erie Lugo

Old Business

New Business

Resolution to approve FY 2009 NCLB Grant (action item)

Moved by Ridley. Second by Andrade.

Unanimous. No abstentions.

Mr. Andrade worked on a National Science Foundation with UACHS, Union City Public School 1.5 million over 5 years. For every math and or science teacher that you hire that does not have a graduate degree the grant will pay for the graduate degree with a \$10,000 stipend. Once you have

identified a new math or science without a graduate degree we will fund this should we secure this grant.

21st Century complete learning grant (see Ruddys)

Funding will allow us to provide after school activities and partner with the United Way. United Way has agreed to provide match and provides us with 5 points which makes us more competitive.

35000-42000 is the range for the next 5 years. Partnering with United Way will make us competitive.

We will receive an additional 5 points if we include gang prevention.

Moved by Andrade. Second by Andrade.

Unanimous. No abstentions,

NJSBA Insurance Group effective date indicated below.

Moved by Valdivia. Second by Viole-Hernandez.

Unanimous. No abstentions.

Announcements

NJSBA Board of Trustees Training

April Board Meeting

April 8, 2009

4:30 pm

Adjournment

Moved by Muhammad. Second by Ridley.

Unanimous. No abstentions.