



# 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  
June 10, 2009  
4:30 PM**

**Ruddys Andrade  
Frank Mercado  
Marco Valdivia  
Melissa Scauri  
Angela Rivera  
Nadine Muhammad  
Karen Ridley  
Migdalia Viole-Hernandez**

## **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 4:50p.m. Mr. Valdivia addressed the public.

Track Coach Mr. Williams announces that the girl's track team has been surprisingly improving. It looks like they are going to be winners and if they go to the championship again this coming year; he can almost guarantee it will be the girls. Mr. Andrade thanks him for the update.

May 2009 minutes were approved.

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

## **Dean's Report (see attached)**

**Dean Lugo made his report to the board.**

UACHS has just received the summer school application from the Jersey City Board of Education. Unfortunately there is a problem, no 9<sup>th</sup> graders can participate in the summer school program and in addition, English I & II and Algebra I will not be offered. We do

not know how this will affect the school but we will need to get creative and find a way to meet these needs. Mr. Lugo says he feels very uncomfortable retaining students who have no option to make those classes that are not being offered by the Jersey City Public Schools during the summer. Hopefully by the July Board meeting, we will have a solution for these students once we have final numbers on which students are failing what classes.

Ms. Viole asked what is the 10% of students not walking how does it compare to other years. Mr. Lugo stated that in the past it was 16% therefore there has been some improvement but it is still 10% of our students. We are encouraging both the students and the teachers to do better because they only have 2 weeks to make improvements therefore if they do their best in the time that is left and to well on the finals they have a better chance of passing. Mr. Lugo states that the 10<sup>th</sup> graders this year, are phenomenal and their grades are outstanding. Mr. Andrade asked if 10% of 100 students may not walk does that mean only one student is not walking. Mr. Lugo stated that 10 out of the 103 students might not be walking because they have not fulfilled their graduation requirements and are failing one or more core requirements, and 1 student is being retained because they are failing two or more core requirements.

Mr. Lugo states that it is unfortunate that we just receive the application for summer and their registration deadline is June 16 but we do not get our final numbers regarding what students are passing until about June 22 or 23. Mr. Andrade requested that the school consider requesting and having the board pass a resolution to operate a summer school program for next year on time, that way we have that option should we need it.

Mr. Lugo states that the English I & II are not being offered because they are 10 credit classes and it is felt that the students cannot recover a 10-credit class over the course of one summer. Mr. Valdivia asked that the option of other schools that can take the kids be offered. Mr. Lugo suggested that perhaps offering an online course may help. Mr. Andrade states that it would be difficult to follow through with an online course if students cannot pass a course through traditional methods and only an advanced student may.

Mr. Valdivia asked Mr. Timpanaro what is going out side and are the kids well supervised. Mr. Timpanaro replies that is it a talent show and yes the kids are being well supervised. Mr. Valdivia asked Mr. Timpanaro if the funds are working well. Mr. Timpanaro states everything will work out well that they have an estimated \$8,000 and need about \$11,000 and are about to replenish about \$2,000 with will bring our total to about \$10, 000. We are still collecting more dues as we go and the students re aware that they will not receive their caps and gowns until they have paid their dues.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Personnel**

Resolution was approved to hire Sarah Moje, for the position of English Teacher:

**Sarah Moje**, *English Teacher* (MA Step 6 - \$48,690 Full-Time Instructional Staff)

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

Resolution to Re-new Professional Services Contracts was approved.

- Educational Evaluating and Testing Services, Inc. to per diem Learning Disability Teaching Constant work at a rate of \$750/day.
- Dr. James Lennon, School Psychologist, at a rate of \$100/hr.
- Jersey City Police Department School Officer at \$40/hr. for police officer + \$5/hr. Administrative fee.

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

Resolution was approved to Re-hire Assistant Dean Sean Sawyer.

**Sean Sawyer**, *Assistant Dean*, (12 month position w/ benefits)

### **Finance**

Mr. Mercado presented on behalf of Finance Committee. Mr. Mercado states that the state of the economy has had a great affect on the fund raising events, which has dramatically limited the fund raising income that was projected along with other means of income. This has resulted in almost 50% of what was projected. Mr. Mercado thanks Mr. Puzo for stretching the money out as much as he has. We are aware that the economical issue will not get better over night but this is just one of the examples of how the school has been affected by the economy.

Mr. Puzo states that we did a great job this year with our budgeting. Mr. Puzo thanks Mr. Meracdo for the recognition but states that it was not he alone, stead it was a combination of Erie and the staff as well. By switch the health insurances carriers has also helped our budget a lot. Salaries are a bit over budget but we should do well. Mr. Puzo reminds everyone that next month the contracts for the outside insurance reps need to be re-appointed.

The finance report for May 2009 and invoices to be paid were approved as presented.

**Moved by Ridley. Second by Viole.**  
**Unanimous. No abstentions.**

## **Old Business**

### **New Business**

Mr. Andrade presented the 2009 Board elections. Mr. Andrade states that every board member has a two-year term cycle. There is an election every year, one year there is a larger slate and the other year there is a smaller slate. Ms. Rivera asks what happens with position on the board now that her son is graduating. Mr. Andrade states that if Ms. Rivera decides to continue with her position on the board we would be more than honored and the only thing that would change is her status from parent to community member.

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

## **Announcements**

**July Board Meeting  
July 8, 2009  
5:30 pm**

### **End Executive Session**

Moved by Ridley. Second by Scauri.  
Unanimous. No abstentions

### **Adjournment**

Moved by Andrade. Second by Rivera.  
Unanimous. No abstentions