

Universal Bluford-Daroff Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2015

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sultan Ahmad
Glenn Ellis
Cheryl Seay
Joel Seay

Also Present:

Mu'Min Islam, Esq., Board Solicitor
Julisa Epps, Board Liaison
Aliya Catanch-Bradley, Principal of Universal Daroff
Stacie Beverly, Assistant Principal Universal Daroff
Crystal Gary-Nelson, Principal Universal Bluford
Dr. Kendra Johnson, Executive Vice President of Instructional Leadership

1. Meeting Minutes

- a. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to approve the minutes from July 16, 2015.
- b. Mr. Ellis made a motion to accept the minutes and Mr. Seay seconded that motion.
- c. The meeting minutes from July 16, 2015 were approved unanimously.

2. Monthly Reports

a. Solicitor Report

- i. Mr. Islam gave the solicitor report and renewal updates.
 1. There was a hearing on 08/17, 08/18 and 08/19 and there were about 30-40 supporters each day of the hearing.
 - a. Due to some conflicts of interest they cancelled part of Wednesday's hearing.
 - b. The district may need to get new attorneys because of the conflict.
 2. The BOT limits were discussed and it was agreed that 2 board members would have three year terms (Class A) and 3 board members would have five year terms (Class B).
 - a. It was suggested that the board chair have the discretion to identify who would serve the 3 and 5 year terms and that it should be announced at the next board meeting.
 - b. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to accept that process
 - c. Mr. Ellis made the motion to accept the process.
 - d. Mr. Seay seconded the motion
 - e. The motion to allow the board chair to have the discretion to identify which board members would serve the 3 and 5 year terms and that it should be announced at the next board was approved unanimously.

3. The proposed training topics for the board are: The role of the Charter School Governing Board, long-term planning, Fundraising and Financial Planning.
 - a. The dates are going to be on a Thursday in December and then the second on a Thursday in March and then the next will be on a Thursday in June.
 - b. Mr. Ellis made a motion to accept the schedule for the Board trainings for the second Thursday in December, the second Thursday in March and second Thursday in June and for the topics to be developing Fruitful Board Relationships, Community and Parent Relations and Role of the School Governing Board.
 - c. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to accept the board training topics and dates.
 - d. Mr. Ellis made the motion to accept the process.
 - e. Mr. Seay seconded the motion
 - f. The board training topics and dates were approved unanimously.

b. Daroff Principal Report

i. Ms. Bradley presented the Principal Report.

1. There will be an agency that will employ after-school teachers who don't teach at the school during the school day.
 - a. The after school program will start on October 5, 2015 and there have been a lot of parents who have signed up.
2. The career fair was successful; there were over 30 people that came and all of them were interviewed, six were offered a position (that were highly qualified and certified) and of that six, four accepted positions.
3. The summer academy has ended and was very successful. There were 150 scholars that attended daily
4. On July 30th, there was the Black Women in Sports Partnership that was featured on Good Day Philadelphia.
5. The childhood initiative with the children's literacy initiative under way.
6. The Safe Foundation was a success on Saturday, hopefully it will become an annual event.

ii. Sac Report

1. There was no SAC report because Taneene Jones is helping a parent volunteer with some family issues.

iii. FSRC Report

1. Ms. Bradley also presented the FSRC Report.
2. FSRC members were not present because they are helping a parent volunteer with some family issues.
3. We are 50 scholars from capacity and the capacity for this year is about 689 scholars.

4. There will be a community walk held the last day of professional development (August 28th) where all the teachers go and introduce themselves to people in the community.
5. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to accept the Principal Report for Daroff
6. Ms. Seay made the motion to accept the process.
7. The motion was second by Mr. Ellis.
8. The principal report was approved unanimously.

c. Bluford Principal Report

- i. Ms. Gary- Nelson gave the principal report for Bluford
 1. All teachers were expected to attend professional development all week.
 2. On August 28th there will be STEM training four the after-school program, which is a part of the 21st Century.
 - a. The teachers will leave STEM with lesson plans to start implementing on October 5th.
 3. The first day of school is September 1st
 4. There will be a meet and greet block party on Saturday September 12th.
 5. Some goals for this school year includes getting to know more parents and to help the scholars with PSSA's by giving out coach books and practice books.
 6. There is Spanish teacher pending and he has until tomorrow to accept the position.
 7. There are still interviews being held for an Assistant Principal, literacy coach, 4th, 5th and 6th grade learning support.
 8. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to accept the Principal Report for Bluford.
 9. Ms. Seay made the motion to accept the process.
 10. The motion was second by Mr. Seay.
 11. The principal report was approved unanimously.

d. Central Office report

- i. Dr. Johnson gave the Central Office Report
 1. Principal Gary-Nelson gave an excellent testimony in court on August 19th for the charter renewal.
 2. Teachers were presented with the academic plan and adv that it it nonnegotiable.
 3. There is a job fair on Monday August 24th and so far, 30 people have RSVP'ed.
 4. Dr. Johnson and Dr. Cruz's goal is to work in collaboration with principals and help them stay true to instruction.
 5. Interviews are still underway fill Ms. Blatley's(sp) position.
 6. The last day of professional development will be focused on the Danialson Framework

7. This is the first time the new PA Core Standards and design were assessed and was administered in the State in regards to the PSSA's.
 - a. This is the standard setting year
 - b. There was not much time to prepare for the adjustment
 - c. The Secretary of Education and the state are saying that you should not compare this year, 2015, to 2014 test.
8. There is a big shift in language arts, math and informational text.
9. There was discussion about how referrals and intakes are handled for the FSRC.
10. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to accept the Central Office Report.
11. Mr. Ellis made the motion to accept the process.
12. The motion was second by Mr. Seay.
13. The Central Office report was approved unanimously

e. Financial Report

- i. The Chair of Finance Officer was not available.
- ii. The board reviewed the Profit Loss Budget versus Actual for July, 2015 - June, 2016 for Bluford and Daroff.
 1. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to accept the Financial Report.
 2. Mr. Seay made the motion to accept the process.
 3. The motion was second by Ms. Seay.
 4. Both Financial reports were approved unanimously.

3. Public Comments

- a. No public comments

4. Adjournment

- a. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- b. Mr. Ellis made the motion to accept the process.
- c. The motion was second by Ms. Seay.
- d. Meeting concluded at 7:50 PM