



STRADFORD PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL FOR BOYS

"Inspiring Excellence. Striving for Greatness."

Brotherhood | Excellence | Self-Efficacy | Adaptability | Leadership

STRADFORD PREP BOARD MEETING AGENDA

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Date | Saturday, May 30, 2020 |
| Time | 4:30pm – 6:30pm |
| Location | Zoom Meeting/Google Hangout Meeting |
| Phone Conference Information | N/A |
| Video Conference Link | Join Hangouts Meet - meet.google.com/ycd-kgwe-vxh |

STRADFORD PREP MISSION - United by our Core Values of Brotherhood, Excellence, Self-Efficacy, Adaptability, & Leadership, our school will provide young men of all backgrounds and experiences with a robust academic, character, and social education in a nurturing environment. We will inspire our young men and guide them along the path that leads to independence and greatness.

STRADFORD PREP'S VISION - Our school will provide the highest quality educational experience from boyhood to young adulthood to fuel the academic, cultural and character growth of each student, helping each realize his highest potential.

→ **Call to Order**

→ **Board of Trustees Expected to Attend**

1. Keith Howard
2. Brandi Womack
3. Logan Hasson
4. Shyah Dickerson
5. Tunde Lawson

→ **Board of Trustees absent with prior notice**

1. None

→ **Others expected to attend the meeting**

1. Dominique Nute
2. Liz Sundback

→ **Approval of the Agenda**

→ **Welcome and Public Comment - Invite the community to speak**

→ **School Leader Report**

1. Wellness Check In - Why SPC is so Important?
2. NYSED Update
3. Portal Update

4. Brick Update

→ **Governance Committee**

1. Board Training Update

→ **Facilities Committee**

1. Space update from CSD 11

→ **Academic Excellence/Accountability Committee**

1. No Report

→ **Finance Committee**

1. Raza

2. CSP update and Spending Plan

3. Audit

→ **Fundraising Committee**

1. No Report

→ **Unfinished Business**

1. Board Training Calendar

2. Staff and Student Recruitment

→ **Accepting Reports & Motions to Accept Reports**

→ **New Business**

1. Public Hearing for CSD 11

2. Superintendent hire for Brick

3. Evaluation of SPC

→ **Comments/Announcements**

1. Board meeting for May

2. Community Event ideas – please submit to info@stradfordprep.org

→ **Adjournment**

1. Motion to adjourn the meeting

2. Remarks - Next Meeting Date and Location

→ **Executive Session**



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STRADFORD PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL FOR BOYS MEETING MINUTES

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2020 @ 4:30PM

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of Stradford Preparatory Charter School for Boys (the "School") was held on Saturday, May 30, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 4:30pm. Roll call was taken at 4:30pm. All trustees present stated their name and stated that they were present.

→ Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 4:30pm by the Board Chair, Mr. Keith Howard.

→ Trustees Present in Person

- Roll call was taken. The following members were present at the meeting:
 - Keith Howard
 - Brandi Womack
 - Logan Hasson
 - Tunde Lawson

→ Trustees Absent with prior notice

- Shyah Dickerson

→ Others in Attendance:

- Dominique Nute

(4) of the (5) trustees were in attendance in person/present throughout the meeting, which constituted a quorum for the transaction of business at the meeting. There were three members of the public that were also in attendance.

→ Approval of the Agenda

- The agenda was presented and approved by the Board of Trustees for Stradford Prep.
- The motion was made to approve the agenda for Saturday, May 30, 2020. The motion was seconded and the agenda was approved by the board.

→ Welcome and Public Comment - Invite the community to speak

- There was no public comment made at this meeting.

→ Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- The minutes from the previous meeting were presented. BOT read over minutes
- A motion was made to approve the minutes from last month's meeting by the Board of Trustees for Stradford Prep.
- The motion was made to approve the minutes from last month's meeting for Thursday, April 30, 2020. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved by the board. Logan will sign them and update them to the site.

→ School Leader Report

- Ms. Nute - stated let's get back focused on the business of Stradford. She is motivated and would like to begin communicating and touching base individually with board members covering new business and old business. Prior to this meeting Ms. Nute and Ms. Womack had a conversation about what is currently taking place in the Country with the recent incidents of glaring racial inequality. They reflected on how educating

Black and Brown kids as well as education in general will unite people. The country is on fire right now starting with the Covid-19 pandemic and now the pandemic of social injustice. As a group this needs to be addressed in this meeting so that we can all better educate the population we are working with.

- Ms. Womack reflected that this issue is nothing new. We have seen this all before. The rioting, the protesting, may yield immediate responses but in years it will return again. What we can do is help to change the current population of children. Invest in our youth not in changing a 50-year-old man. The youth is our future. Address these issues now and change things for the future.
- Ms. Nute reiterated that this is part of why Stradford was started. The SPC board is diverse and as a board need to be able to address social issues such as these.
- Mr. Hasson said that he was struggling to not give an empty gesture but that he was in the midst of a protest the evening before and it energized him.
- Mr. Lawson was tired of the trauma that this was inflicting and that he was concerned for his kids and other children. He felt that economic empowerment was an important factor. That circulating wealth in the black community was needed. He, like Ms. Womack and Mr. Hasson agreed that bringing the right energy to Stradford would be helpful.
- Mr. Howard was thrilled that Ms. Nute brought this topic up and Ms. Womack hit it out of the park with her thoughts. He echoed that it was important to protect and inspire youth in every way possible. He spoke about his role in the Police Department in the 90's addressing civilian complaints as a civilian investigator. He then acted as a chief investigator under mayor Dinkins. What he saw first hand in the streets is very similar to what is going on now. He said we have to fight on every different front and address this on every level to develop criminal laws that can uncover intent in these situations. As a board they have to be smart in educating and hiring for SPC. He closed by echoing the importance of getting involved in this school and how impactful it can be.
- Ms. Nute acknowledged appreciation for everyone sharing and that while we don't all know each other on deep personal levels we are all working toward a common goal. She is ready to move forward with. Ms. Nute briefly met with the Finance Committee about the financials of the school this past week. She also met with Ms. Womack about governance. Committees will be important throughout June and planning year 3 and is where much of the work of Stradford will take place.

→ Governance Committee

- Board Training Update - Mr. Howard stated that July 1, 2020 is the goal to have the calendar set for training. Paul O'Neill has to confirm the dates proposed. The meetings and the training at this point will likely be virtual. Paul and Mr. Howard will confirm training dates by the next meeting.
- Mr. Howard also stated that SPC is in good standing with the state. Mr. Howard patched things up very nicely with Vicky and feels the relationship with NYSED has improved a lot over the past few months. He really enjoyed the last conversation with NYSED.
- In this planning year Mr. Howard stated, Ms. Nute will need help, support and guidance and wants Brick to lay out a plan for onboarding board members and the professional training. We will discuss with Brick during the next check in meeting.
- Mr. Howard stated that the portal uploads plan will be implemented with a clear checks and balances system. There will be a weekly check in for document uploads and they will be reviewed together by Ms. Nute and Ms. Womack. Once a DOO is hired they too will also have portal access. The status of the portal will be reported monthly to the board by Ms. Nute and Ms. Womack.
- Mr. Howard said all minutes should be uploaded to the portal by the end of June.
- New Board members are typically introduced in June to be brought on for July 1st. Ms. Williams is a name up for discussion as well as Sharod. Ms. Nute suggested that as we vet and nominate individuals, we should consider adding a lawyer or a person with legal experience to cut down on those professional costs. Another suggestion was a person with real estate experience and a community member. Bio's needed but in the interim to make official nominations.
- Mr. Lawson asked about existing Board members renewing and reapplying. Ms. Nute will look into the bylaws and revisions and share with the board at the July meeting.

→ Facilities Committee

- Space update - Mr. Howard indicated the next 2 months are critical. He noted that he and Mr. Hasson is back at the beginning looking for a temporary space.
- Ms. Nute said the long term space at the Esplanade is 90% complete. Mr. Lee was super enthusiastic about it but they still needed to determine where the deposit money was coming from.
- Mr. Howard countered that while that is important - the short term space is more important right now and that once that is locked in the focus can shift to the long term space.
- Ms. Nute suggested that she, Mr. Howard and Mr. Hasson meet this upcoming week to discuss the short term space plans.
- Mr. Howard also discussed checking in with Maureen. He stated that he would email Maureen while Lisa worked on the long term lease.

→ Academic Excellence/Accountability Committee

- There was no report this month from the Academic Excellence.

→ Finance Committee

- CSP grant - there is a state wide freeze on all funds. Much of the money has been spent but there is still more to spend before June 30, 2020. Vickie, Mr. Howard and Mr. Lee will talk next week to see what the penalty will be for not spending the grant.
- Ms. Nute created a purchasing plan covering all the items needed for spending. The money needs to be spent by 6/30/20 if there is no extension or freeze.
- The Raza loan has been paid back in full.
- Ms. Nute was also able to secure an additional \$20,000.00 in Walton grant money. The money has been released for a remote learning plan and additional funding may occur.
- Gretchen from CSBM has assisted with updating the spending plan and will also assist with the Walton Grant revisions.
- Big win for us - all bills are up to date on bill.com. No one is owed money. SPC is in good standing with Raza which is great because if they are needed again we have remained in good graces with them. There remains a gap in spending of about \$100,000.00 to make up due to salaries from planning year 1 not being covered.
- Mr. Howard interjected to complement Ms. Nute on her 360-degree turnaround in her passion and energy and how great it was that no money was owed to the state. He noted how far they have come through some difficult spaces and how he is appreciative of her sticking with it and showing great promise. Ms. Womack echoed Mr. Howard's sentiments.

→ Fundraising Committee

- There was no report this month from the Fundraising Committee.

→ Unfinished Business

- Remote Learning - School opening plan under pandemic conditions - Still unsure if the opening will be traditional or remote - but must plan for each scenario even though SPC is not opening this upcoming Fall.
- Ms. Nute explained that staff and student recruitment will be big ticket items for July. She wants Brick's support with this and feels they should run concurrently beginning August 1.
- Paul O'Neil calendar for training and professional development for BOY will be released at the July meeting.

→ Accepting Reports & Motions to Accept Reports

- There was a motion to accept the committee reports for the month of May made by Mr. Lawson. The motion was seconded by Mr. Howard and approved by the majority vote of the board.

→ New Business

- The upcoming Public Hearing for adding institutional partners and changing the district from 9 to 11 is taking place this month. Ms. Nute will connect with the CEC (Community Education Council) before the hearing. The hearing will be held online. We need to obtain some clarity on who needs to attend. Ms. Nute will lead the meeting.

- Ms. Nute is requesting a call with Brick this week to look into the Bronx hiring of a Superintendent, professional development and the NJ School Leader certification and how this can be expedited because the test was cancelled due to the pandemic.
- Ms. Nute introduced the new business of the professional development piece that Brick is going to provide to SPC. While it is not rolled out yet there will be an assessment rubric for both the CMO and the School Leader roles. There must be a considerable amount of time spent on this in the coming months and how to dissect this process and these assessments because this is very important in the final planning year. Dates for the staffing and professional development training are needed for a July start.
- Mr. Lawson asked who will be developing the assessment criteria - does SPC have to use what Brick provided? Ms. Nute responded by saying that it can be extensive to create our own but that the board should discuss that with Paul since he is doing the board training.
- Mr. Howard said that based on the MOU Brick evaluates the school leader and then the board makes the decision to keep them or not. As a board you will also evaluate the effectiveness of Brick as an institutional partner. MOU states that the SPC Board retains all legal board seats given to Brick which they have not filled.

→ **Comments/Announcements**

- Mr. Howard thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
- Mr. Howard will notify the board how the public hearing goes for those that are unable to attend.
- Community Event ideas – please submit to info@stradfordprep.org

→ **Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 6:33pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hasson and passed by the board. The meeting was adjourned at 6:33pm
- Remarks - none today!

→ **Executive Sessions**

Respectfully submitted,

Logan Hasson

*I, **Logan Hasson** the duly qualified interim acting Secretary of Stradford Preparatory Charter School for Boys, a New York education corporation, do hereby certify that I prepared these Minutes, and that the above is a true and complete copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the said corporation held on Saturday, May 30, 2020.*